IROQUOIS INDIANS:

A Documentary History

of the Diplomacy of the Six Nations

and Their League

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INTRODUCTION

This compilation is like none other in the world. It is an archive of documents made by and concerning a people without scribes, documents recorded by other parties and originally filed away obscurely in repositories devoted to other interests. Because the League of the Iroquois and its constituent Six Nations negotiated diplomatically with the agents of empires, provinces, and nation-states, as well as with other Indian nations, Iroquois treaty documents came to rest in The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, and in many state and private collections, in all of which the Iroquois documents were secondary to the thousand and one concerns of Europeans and Euro-Americans. Now these many scattered collections have been culled to create the first authentic archive of an indigenous tribal people.

Strictly speaking, an archive consists of the documents generated by an agency or institution, but we may think in terms of an imaginary Iroquois foreign office whose papers were destroyed in an imaginary fire, being preserved only in the copies made for other parties to negotiations. With that fiction in mind, what we have here is a reconstituted archive. Regardless of problems of definition, it is a body of texts exceedingly important to genuinely reconstituting the history of the United States and its predecessor colonies and native peoples.

The Iroquois League was a great military and political power in North America during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Its importance was recognized by contemporary statesmen of competing European empires and colonies, who vied with each other to secure Iroquois friendship and alliance. After 1700, the Iroquois policy of neutrality maintained a balance of power between the empires that lasted until the Seven Years War, and the Iroquois nations were wooed by Britain and the United States during the War of the American Revolution. It is not possible to write a valid political history of eastern North America during the era preceding

the Revolution without carefully considering Iroquois participation in the most important events of the time; and the basis of the Northwest Ordinances of 1784-87 was the treaty made at Fort Stanwix between the United States and the Iroquois in 1784.

Though the Iroquois League fragmented during the American Revolution and its people are now scattered on Canadian and American reservations, and individually as far as Hawaii, their history after the Revolution became inextricably part of the history of the Great Lakes region and of the vast intersocietal trade that moved westward across the continent. Defying dogmas of the vanishing Indian, more Iroquois are now alive than were previously recorded at any one time.

The major problem in studying Iroquois participation in North American history has been the scattered and unreliable condition of the source materials. A large number were virtually inaccessible. Most have never been validated by critical examination for omissions, variance between copies, or other contradiction by other contemporary documents. In national and state archives, Iroquois treaties are submerged in the general material, their arrangement and cataloging ill-suited to the study of indigenous peoples; and indexes are at best inadequate, often erroneous and misleading. There is continuing attrition of source manuscripts, identifiable by later references to documents that no longer can be found.

Now, however, most of the problems of access have been solved by the archive presented herein; and comparison of documents has been facilitated. The documents included were compiled by a project begun in September 1978 at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Funded for three years by the Research Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and staffed by a historian and three anthropologists with the assistance of many temporary aides, the project initially aimed at compiling less than 3,000 texts, but even the specialists had badly underestimated Iroquois diplomatic activity and

its involvements. The documents piled up to three times the original estimate, and the project's actual duration extended past its formal closing for three more years. It has been completed nevertheless, largely owing to the dedicated support of the Newberry Library and donation of labor by the staff. Many generous contributions by individuals and institutions are acknowledged below.

Project staff made no effort to collect original source documents. Instead, it copied them by microphotography or xerography and made paper copies of all documents to be filed in an archive at the Newberry. This publication reproduces that archive. It is open to addition as new documents come to light, and students are solicited to send information about such new documents to the Newberry. The archive's calendar is available on a computer printout at the Newberry, and a card index of names and subjects refers to about one-sixth of the documents on file. Access may be had by qualified students. An indexed document is noted as such by a degree sign after the date of the document on the headnote to the document and in the calendar. Regrettably the index could not be completed because of lack of funds, but it is useful in combination with the calendar. Both are printed in the guide that accompanies this film. A reader may wish to scan the calendar for context before concentrating on particular documents. Calendar and index, especially when used together, are finding aids for the location of particular documents and sets of related documents.

ABOUT THE TEXTS

What They Are

The documents presented here include the minutes of treaty conferences, the agreements resulting from formal meetings, and a broad range of background materials useful for interpreting motives, procedures, and effects. The editors' basic standard for selection was relevance to the diplomatic history of Iroquois nations or their league. Other parties involved in the negotiations are also included.

Most of the documents are manuscript or printed texts arranged in chronological order. Often it has been possible to compile copies of the same text from different sources, and sometimes these are variant, sometimes significantly so. All copies are included. Texts in languages other than English are presented but only rarely translated.

Photographs of wampum belts are also included as representing Indian records of negotiations. In almost all instances, it has not been possible to identify a particular belt with a specific written record, and the editors have concluded regretfully that the belts cannot be deciphered by a general code. Nevertheless certain conventional patterns have been observed, so the belts are grouped according to emblematic content, following the last written text at the end of the microfilm publication.

The documents span a period from the earliest surviving sixteenth century texts through the year 1842.

How They Were Copied

The editors depended on many archives and repositories for exact xerographic copies of original documents in their possession. Their valuable cooperation was unstinted, but the variety of their facilities for copying prevented the adoption of a uniform reduction ratio. Therefore, although the final microfilming at Research

Publications was done at a constant reduction ratio, there is no constant relation between the relative size of documents on our film and the actual dimensions of the originals.

The integrity of the documents was the editors' foremost concern. No document has been altered. Very few extractions were made and they are noted in every case. No marks were made by us on copies received except, in some cases, for bold editorial lines with arrows, to denote the beginning and end of a document. Such indications were also used to note overlapping when a large page had to be copied in sections.

The editors aimed at comprehensiveness. This objective required inclusion of some texts so mutilated or faint in the original as to be minimally legible. These are given nevertheless for whatever information can be extracted from them. Some are more legible in the technically enhanced copies than in the originals.

As in all publications, the originals remain the ultimate source to be consulted when issues of textual validity arise. The location of every document is given in a headnote.

How They Are Presented

Each entry consists of a headnote with the document's date, a brief description, and the source, followed by the document itself. In a few cases a translation or annotation will follow the document.

Each headnote description reflects the perspective of the document rather than editorial comment about it. As descriptions were often taken from catalogs or notations of source repositories, spelling of names is not standardized. Editorial remarks, if present, appear in parentheses or annotations.

Bracketed dates have been assigned by the editors. Single documents are given with the date when written regardless of the time referred to in their contents. This has been done because documents are products of the time and circumstances when written, and these may seriously affect interpretation of the contents. To

preserve textual integrity, some texts have been included as found in collections of documents spanning a period of time which is so dated: e.g., 1645-Sept 1654. Multiple copies of the same document, same date, are distinguished as Document I, Document II, etc., and filed in sequence under their common date.

If a document is dated more than one year from the date of the treaty to which it pertains, it is cross-referenced under the treaty date. Because of the prolonged nature of many treaty negotiations, users should scan the compilation's calendar to find appropriate documents within a year of any event of interest. Although cross-references refer to specific documents, distinguished by Roman numerals in cases in which there is more than one document of the same date, references to other documents in editorial remarks within descriptions of a particular document do not make use of Roman numerals to distinguish between documents of the same date. In these cases, all documents of the date cited should be checked for the reference.

The editors have not tried to reconcile or adjust dates in the Old Style Julian calendar used by the English for many years after the French and Dutch had changed over to the New Style Gregorian calendar. Dates are given herein as they appear on the documents. When the English finally changed over, they often gave both new and old dates on the same text; in such instances the editors opted for the New Style annotation.

The project staff has compiled and edited a printed reference manual to assist in interpreting the texts, and we urge that it be kept handy during research. It is The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy: An Interdisciplinary Guide to the Treaties of the Six Nations and Their League (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984). It is a volume for quick and easy reference, self-contained but especially useful in conjunction with this compilation of documents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This archive could not have been compiled without the generous contributions of counsel and materials from many persons and agencies. No one is intentionally left out of the following list. Pardon is asked for any inadvertent omission.

Indian people: Early in the project, Richard Powless and Paul Williams of the Union of Ontario Indians provided a list of treaty documents. Seven persons from the Union of Ontario Indians visited the project from 23rd to 29th June 1979 and offered comments and suggestions. Phil Monture, Land Researcher at Six Nations Reserve shared knowledge of locations of source materials. George Abrams, Director of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Seneca Reservation, and Ramona Charles, Librarian at the Community House on the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation, provided information about the location of materials. Tribal historians from different political persuasions on fellowship at the Center discussed the project with staff members during their residence: Norbert Hill and Sandra Orie came from the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin; and Douglas George, recommended by the "traditional" Mohawk Nation, came from the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Reservation. Everett White, born and raised at St. Regis (Akwesasne), provided valuable information about documents based on his former experiences as an Indian Health Service employee and his personal interest in the history of his people. Most important information and advice were given on a visit by Cayuga Chief Jacob E. Thomas who represents the Cayuga nation in the Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee and teaches in Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. On 22nd May 1980, Chief Thomas made a joint presentation with Dr. Michael K. Foster, Iroquoian Ethnologist of the Canadian National Museum of Man. At a colloquium at the Newberry, they showed slides and facsimile artifacts and explained symbols in terms of Iroquois custom. Through the following day, Chief Thomas held nonstop conversation with project staff who took extensive notes and taped his analyses of certain wampum belts. He continued

in correspondence afterward. Informal visitors to the project included Charles Patton and Tyler Hemlock, Caughnawaga (Kahnawake) Mohawks; and Alice Armstrong and Helen Laughing, Mohawks employed in the Demographic Office, Mohawk Tribal Offices, St. Regis Reservation.

When Associate Director Mary A. Druke traveled to Indian communities, she was received hospitably everywhere. Indians of Onondaga, including Oren Lyons, Irving Powless, Jr., and Irving Powless, Sr., though unsympathetic to the project, received her graciously and explained their attitudes. Information about documentary material and oral traditions were provided to her by residents of the following Indian communities: Allegany; Cattaraugus; Caughnawaga (Kahnawake), Onondaga, St. Regis (Akwesasne), Six Nations Reserve; Tonawanda; and Tuscarora.

Project Aides:

Consultants. Charles Gehring, of the New York State Library, Manuscripts, provided notes on Dutch manuscripts in the Livingston Family Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Paul Stevens, a Fellow at the McNickle Center, compiled and annotated source documents of the era of the American Revolution. Another McNickle Center Fellow, Professor Richard Haan, contributed copies of odd documents he had been collecting for ten years. Mary Ann Mayes searched William N. Fenton's files and compiled a list of cited Iroquois documents. Lieutenant Commander C. McD. Stuart, RN, searched uncalendared treaty texts at the Public Record Office of Great Britain and arranged for transmission of copies. Paul Grey, graduate student at the University of London, acted as liaison between the project staff and the Public Record Office in acquiring documents ordered by the staff. Professional indexer Elin Christianson advised on indexing procedures. Major F.E.G. Bageshawe, of Matlock, England, provided photographs of a wampum belt in private hands.

Office employees at various times included Nancy Kovitz; Peter Radke; Polly Strong, University of Chicago graduate student; Andrew Tobin, Bennington College student; Karli Erica White. Wesley Andrews arranged much of the final organization

of the archive files. The project was also helped by several students enrolled in undergraduate independent study seminars of the Association of the Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes Colleges Association, whose wages were paid by the associations and the Newberry. David L. Ghere accomplished "last minute" tasks.

Volunteers included Claudette Alm; Jeanette Campanella; Lucy Caples; Herbert Furse; Ted Knutson; Nancy Kovitz; Dorothy Markowitz; Virginia Meyers; Noel O'Reilly; Mary Louise Ramsey; Mrs. Gerald Sivage. They sorted and identified the masses of documents arriving in the mails, and put them in order for editors' review.

Newberry Library staff. Special interest was maintained and special help provided by John Aubrey, Michael Kaplan, Steve Mandel, Terry Sullivan, and Michelene Fixico; and much gratitude is owed for the patience of Richard H. Brown.

Advice and information were exchanged with colleagues of the Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History project: Helen Hornbeck Tanner, Adele Hast, and Jacqueline Peterson. The members of the Conference on Iroquois Research and the American Society for Ethnohistory devoted three successive panel sessions to the project at annual meetings.

Institutions:

Special gratitude is owed to the Public Archives of Canada for its gift of copies of treaties and surrenders in its possession. Thanks must also be expressed to the Rochester [N.Y.] Museum and Science Center for its donation of photographs of its large collection of wampum belts. The University of Chicago made copyflo paper copies of microfilm at a minimal cost far below commercial prices. Research Publications sent a photographer without charge to film documents located at the Albany Institute of History and Art and at the New York State Archives in Albany. Work on the project was greatly facilitated by materials collected in research travel previous to the project and incorporated into project files. The American Philosophical Society made such research fellowship grants to Director Jennings

and Associate Director Druke. Through such generous contributions, as well as time and energy given by individuals, the project managed to stay within its budget despite its massive increase in size. When the project could not be finished within its allotted three years, the Newberry Library financed it to completion.

Thanks are due to each repository, publication, or individual source of materials listed below which made available copies of materials in its collections. together they have made this publication possible.

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within the extreme Limits of this Province, to the Westward; but as the Western Bounds thereof.... have never been actually run, I cannot speak with Certainty. I shall however use my utmost..... Diligence, to learn how far the Information I have received touching such Encroachments on his.... Majesties Dominions, may be depended on; of which I shall do myself the Honour to acquaint your Lordship in a further Account as well as of the other Particulars mentioned in your Lordship's Letter, as soon as they shall be known to me.

I am May it please your Lordship
Your Lordships
most obedient and most
humble Servant
James Hamilton.

Pennsylvania
November 25th 1753.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 13th Day of February 1754.

Present

John Penn, Benjamin Shoemaker,
Thomas Lawrence, Joseph Turner,
Robert Strettell, Richard Peters,
} Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

Memorandum.

On the fourth Instant Two Members waited on the Governor to acquaint him, that the House was met according to their Adjournment, and desired to know if he had any thing to lay before them. The Governor had been some time confined to his Chamber by a tedious Sickness, and was then too much indisposed to admit them to speak to him; therefore ordered the Secretary to inform them of his Indisposition, and that he would send a Message to the House in the..... morning: and accordingly he sent them this verbal Message by the Secretary, That "the Governor "was sorry to find himself prevented by Indisposition from now communicating to the House, in "a proper manner, sundry Letters which he some time since received, as well from his Majesties "Ministers, as from several of the neighbouring Governors, relating to Indian Affairs; which, never-"theless, he hoped yet shortly to be able to do, if it should please God to favour him with the Recovery "of his Health.

"In the mean time, it would be equally agreable to him, whether the House thought fit to "come to a short Adjournment, or should proceed to prepare such Business as they might have to "lay before him, when his Health would permit him to receive it, which he would willingly hope "will not be long."

Yesterday Two Members waited on the Governor in his Chamber, as he was still..... indisposed, with an Order for Five Hundred Pounds on the Treasurer and the following Message, "That the House, on receiving the Governor's Message of the fifth Instant, were concerned to hear of "his ill State of Health; but as he then gave them some Expectation, that he should in a short time be "able to proceed upon the publick Business, and acquainted them, that it was equal to him, whether "they made a short Adjournment, or proceeded to prepare such Business as they might have to lay "before him, they have chose to continue their present Sitting, as being in the most suitable Season "with Regard to their private Affairs, hoping the Governors Indisposition would not long continue; "and as they now have the Pleasure of hearing that his Health is in a great Measure restored, they "beg Leave to acquaint him, that they have prepared some Business to lay before him whenever "it may suit him to receive the same". To which the Governor was pleased to say, "That he thanked

"the

"the House for the Order, and that He expected in two or three Days his Health would permit "him to receive any Business the House might have to lay before him."

The Governor by his Secretary informed the Council, that his bad State of health would not permit him to come to Council, and desired they would carefully peruse the Draught of a Message he intended to send to the Assembly, with the several Letters therein referred to, and give him their Opinion thereon.

Then was read a Letter of the Lords of Trade in the following Words.

Whitehall September 18th. 1753.

Sir

His Majesty having been pleased to order a Sum of Money to be issued for Presents to the Six Nations of Indians, and to direct his Governor of New York to hold an Interview with them, for delivering these Presents, for burrying the Hatchet and for renewing the ..... Covenant Chain with them, We think it our Duty to acquaint You therewith; and as we find it has been usual upon former Occasions, when an Interview has been held with these Indians, for all his Majesties Colonies, whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them to join in such Interview; and as the present Disposition of those Indians, and the Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from the British Interest, appear to Us to make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this time, We desire You will lay this Matter before the Council and general Assembly of the Province under your Government, and recommend to them forthwith to make a proper Provision for appointing ..... Commissioners to be joined with those of the other Governments for renewing the Covenant Chain with the Six Nations, and for making such Presents to them as has been usual upon the like Occasions. And We desire that in the Choice and Nomination of the Commissioners, You will take Care that they are Men of Character, Ability and Integrity, and well acquainted with Indian Affairs.

As to the Time and Place of Meeting, it is left to the Governor of New York to fix it, and he has Orders to give You early Notice of it. We are

Sir

Your very loving Friends
and humble Servants

Dunk Halifax
J Grenville
Dupplin

James Hamilton Esquire
Lt. Governor of Pensylvania.

And a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie in the following Words

Williamsburg Virginia November 24th. 1753.

Sir

Your Letter of the 30th. of October came to my Hands this Day, as also Copy of Yours to Governor Glen. I sent an Express to that Gentleman three Weeks ago, and then, agreable to Scarroyady's Desire, I wrote him to acquaint me the Reasons for confining some of the Shawonese Indians, who were in Friendship with the English, but Scarroyady desired the Commissioner from me at Winchester, not to insist on their Release without the Six Nations Directions. Andrew Montour, who is now here from the Six Nations, desires their Release, and to be sent thither, which I shall strenuously desire Mr Glen to do, and when they come here shall send them to their Nation.

The

The French Governors must be invested with more Power, than those from Great Britain, to invade his Majesties Lands in the Time of confirmd Peace between the Two Crowns, and to build Forts: as my Power is more enlarged by a late Instruction from Home, I have sent a Person of Distinction to the Commander of the French Forces on the Ohio, to know his Reasons for this unjustifiable Step in invading our Lands; I have desired him to write me by what Authority he proceeds in this unjust and unwarrantable manner, and have desired him immediately to return, otherwise I shall be obliged to follow the Directions and Powers invested in me, from his Majesty of Great Britain, by repelling Force by Force. The Messenger has been gone three Weeks; when he returns, I shall acquaint You of his Proceedings, Reception and Answer of the French Officer.

We have several Workmen gone out to build a Fort at the Forks of Mohongialo, with the Approbation and desire of the Indians; but if the French have embarked and gone down the River, I fear they will prevent our Designs.

I am fully of Opinion, that all the Colonies should join in opposing the Designs of the French; for they will be cruel bad Neighbours, if allowed to settle so near our Western Frontiers.

Our Assembly is now sitting; I have, by Orders from Home, represented to them the Necessity of a proper Supply, in case of Need, but I fear they will be very backward therein, unless the Messenger I sent to the French returns before the House is up: they say if occasion they will readily come into a Supply, but this Dominion is so extensive, and the Expence of calling the House of Burgesses so very large, that I wish they may do it now.

I shall write Mr Glen of the Necessity and Usefulness of enlargeing those Indians. The Commissioner I sent to Winchester was chiefly to deliver a Present to the Twightwees, and to receive their Assurances of Friendship to the British Subjects, and to ask them and some of the chiefs of the other Nations of Indians, to meet me at Winchester next May, when I propose to give them a considerable Present, and to endeavour to make Peace between the Northern and Southern Indians; after that, to make a strict Alliance between the many different Tribes and the King of Great Britain and his Subjects settled on this Continent. I shall therefore be glad of your Assistance in an Affair I think so necessary for our Mother Country, the Trade and Safety of these Colonies. The Express I sent to New York is not yet returned, which gives me some Uneasiness.

I presume the Letter I sent You by him was from the Earl of Holderness, I suppose for a mutual Supply from all the Colonies: I shall be glad, if so, to know the Disposition of your People on this present Emergency.

My time is much taken up with the Assembly, therefore can only say farther, that I remain with sincere Regard and Respect

Sir

Your obedient humble Servant

Robt. Dinwiddie

Governor Hamilton.

Then was read another Letter from Governor Dinwiddie in the following Words.

Williamsburg Virginia January 29th. 1754.

Sir

The Return of the Gentleman whom I sent Express to the French Commandant, to know what Steps the French were taking on the Ohio, enables me to acquaint your Honour, that on his Arrival there, he found that the French had taken Post on a Branch of that River, and built a Fort wherein they had mounted eight Pieces of Cannon Six Pounders, and that they had in Readiness Materials for other Forts, which they declared their Intentions to erect on the River

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and particularly at Logs Town, the Place destined for their chief Residence, so soon as the Season would permit them to embark; and for which Purpose He saw two hundred and twenty Canoes ready finished, besides a great Number more blocked out. Having delivered his Credentials, and my Letter, he complained to the Commander of the Violence that had been offered to his Majesties Subjects, in seizing their Effects, and making Prisoners of their Persons, to which he was answered, "That the Country belonged to them; that no Englishman "had a Right to trade upon those Waters, and that he (the Commandant) had Orders to "make every Person Prisoner that attempted it on the Ohio, or the Waters of it."

Your Honour will perceive these to be their Sentiments by the enclosed, and it were superfluous to advance many Arguments with so discerning and sagacious a Servant of our Master, to prove the Urgency that presses every one of his Majesties Colonies to exert ..... themselves on this Occasion, to vindicate the Honour and Dignity of his Crown, and justify his undoubted Rights, against the Invaders of the British Property.

The Power of our Enemies is far from being contemptible, and it is as certain, they will exert its utmost Efforts to procure all possible Advantages against Us. They have already engaged Three Indian Nations, the Chippoways, Ottoways and Orundachs to take up Arms against the English, and from the best Information, Major Washington learned that the French had Four Forts on the Mississippi, besides their strong Settlement at New Orleans, where they have above Fourteen Hundred Men in Garrison; That by means of the River Ovabaseck, they have a ..... Communication between Canada and the Mississippi, and some Forts on the Ovabash to cover and protect this Communication.

Before they sent their Troops into Winter Quarters last Fall, they called the several Tribes of Indians near their Fort together, and told them, that altho the approaching Season, and the State, at that time, of the Waters, made it necessary to send the chief of their Forces into Winter Quarters, yet they might be assured to see them early in the Spring with a much more considerable Armament, and that then they would take Possession of the Ohio, and threatned them if they were not entirely passive.

These Circumstances induced me to order out for the present a Detachment of the Militia, and call together the Assembly, which I have ordered to meet the fourteenth of next Month, and hope they will enable me to take more vigorous Measures, which I shall then do with all Expedition, and propose to have what Men I can raise at Wills Creek on the Head of Patowmack River early in March, which I have chosen for the Place of Rendezvous, as being more generally ..... convenient to us all, and nearest the Scene of Action.

It may perhaps interfere with the Service to divide the Command, and therefore I should be glad to find that it were agreable to You, to entrust my general Officer with the Command of the Forces You can prevail with your Assembly to raise on this Occasion.

I have no doubt but You will be qualified, upon this present Situation of our Affairs, to raise a considerable Force; for defeating the Designs of the French; and as You have many Persons among You, that understand the Lands upon the Ohio, they will be able to give You proper ..... Intelligence; but it appears to me ..... absolutely necessary, to be very early on the Ohio with such Forces as We possibly can collect together; and as I have no doubt of your earnest Inclination to promote the Dignity of the Crown and the Safety of these Colonies, I pray an Answer on the Return of this Express, and am with great Respect

Sir

your most humble Servant

Robt. Dinwiddie

Governor Hamilton.

In which was enclosed the following Letter from the French Commander to the Governor of Virginia.

Monsieur,

Monsieur,

Comme j'ai l'honneur de commander en Chef, Monsieur Washington m'a remis la Lettre que vous ecrivier au Commandant des Trouppes Françoises.

J'aurois eté charmé que vous lui eussier donné ordre, ou qu'il eût eté disposé à se rendre en Canada pour voir Monsieur notre General, auquel il appertient mieux qu'à moi de mettre au jour l'evidence, et la realité des droits du Roi mon Maitre sur les Terres sçituées le long de la belle Riviere, et de contester les Pretentions du Roi de la grande Bretagne a cét egard.

Je vais adresser votre lettre à Monsieur Le Marquis Duquisne; sa reponse me servira de loi, et s'il m'ordonne de vous la communiquer, Monsieur, je puis vous assurer que je ne..... negligerai rien pour vous la faire tenir promptement.

Quant à la Sommation que vous me faites de me retirer, je ne me crois pas dans l'obligation de m'y rendre; quelques que puissent être vos Instructions, Je suis ici en vertu desordres de mon General, et je vous prie, Monsieur, de ne pas douter un instant que je suis dans la constante..... Resolution de m'y conformer avec toute l'exactitude, et la fermeté que l'on peut attendre du meilleur Officier.

J'ignore que dans le cours de cette Campagne il se soit rien passé qui puisse être reputé pour acte d'hostilité, ni qui soit contraire aux traités qui subsident entre les deux Couronnes, dont la Continuation nous interesse; et nous flatte autant que Messieurs les anglois. S'il vous eût eté agreable, Monsieur, d'en venir sur ce point à un detail particulier des faits qui motivent votre plainte, j'aurois eu l'honneur de vous repondre de la façon la plus positive, et je suis persuadé que vous auriez eu lieu d'etre satisfait.

Je me suis fait un Devoir particulier de recevoir Monsieur Washington avec la..... Distinction qui convient à votre Dignité à sa Qualité, et à son grand Merite; je puis me... flatter qu'il me rendra cette Justice auprès de vous, Monsieur, et qu'il vous fera connoitre ainsi que moi le Respect profond avec lequel je suis

Monsieur

votres tres humble et tres
obeissant Serviteur.

Legardeur De St. Pierre.

Du Fort de la Riveere
au beuf le 15 Xbre 1753.

Then was read a Letter from Governor Delancey in the following Words

New York 7th December 1753.

Sir

I have lately received a Letter from the Commanding Officer at Oswego of the eighth of November, acquainting me that since his former to Governor Clinton the greatest Part of the French army that went up this Summer to Ohio, had repassed Oswego, from whom Two Men deserted, the one an English man taken at Minas during the late War, the Other a Frenchman; that from these he learned that the French have not been able to accomplish their Designs on the Ohio by reason of the Indians, but threaten a second Tryal next Year, they also informed him that the French army had been very sickly, and great Numbers had died of the Scurvy through the badness of their Provisions; and that the Indians to the Southward had not only bid them..... Defiance, but had forced from them both Provisions and Brandy several times; they further informed him, that the French had taken Two English Prisoners, whom they sent to Canada in Irons. I communicate this piece of Intelligence as it cannot but be agreable to You, if the Information contained in the Letter be true. You will observe the French threaten to renew their attempts.... next Year, this they will probably do, unless the Difficulties which they may apprehend from the Indians in the Execution should deter them. The French building Forts and making Settlements on the Ohio will prove of pernicious Consequence to his Majesties Dominions; for as that River

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(according to the Idea I have of the Country) is much nearer to the back Settlements than the Course the French used to take through the Lakes, they will more easily make Incursions .... upon the British Subjects, being near and having a Place of Retreat and Security, at their Forts, they will intercept the Indian Trade and draw the Indians into a greater Dependance on them than is consistent with the Safety of his Majesties Subjects in that Part of America; if the French have Forts at proper Places on the Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia may find that in another War they will become as sharp Thorns in their Sides as Fort St. Frederick at Crown Point is to Massachusetts Bay and New York. These Considerations may perhaps deserve the attention of Mr. Penn and your Assembly. I am

Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
James DeLancey

The Hon.ble Governor Hamilton.

Then was read another Letter from Governor DeLancey, enclosing an Extract of a Letter from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, both which are in the following Words.

New York 11th December 1753.

Sir

On Friday last I received the enclosed Letter, with others to the Governors of Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, New Hampshire and the Massachusetts Bay from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations to be forwarded as addressed, and as they are referred to in their Lordships Letter to me, I enclose you an Extract of it; in Pursuance of which I proposed an Interview with the Indians at Albany on the thirteenth or fourteenth Day of next June. the Assembly here have this Day resolved that they will make Provision for the Presents usually given on such Occasions, and for the Expence of my Voyage thither; so that I intend to meet the Indians at the Time and Place abovementioned. The Assembly have also resolved upon my laying before them the Letter from the Earl of Holdernesse; that they will make a suitable Provision for assisting any of the neighbouring Colonies to repel Force by Force, in case .... they be invaded in an hostile Manner by any Force whatsoever. This I thought necessary to communicate to You. I am with great Esteem

Sir

Your Honours
most obedient and most
humble Servant
James DeLancey

His Honour James Hamilton Esq.r
Governor of Pennsylvania.

Extract of a Letter from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations .... dated 18th September 1753.

As We find it has been usual upon former Occasions when an Interview has been held with the Indians, for the other neighbouring Governments in Alliance with them, to send Commissioners to be joined with those of New York, and as the present wavering Disposition of the Indians equally affects the other Provinces, We have wrote to the Governors of Virginia, Pensylvania, Maryland, New Hampshire, Massachusets Bay and New Jersey, desiring them to represent to their respective Assemblies the Utility and Necessity of this Measure, and to urge them to make proper Provision for it; and therefore it will be necessary that when You have settled the Time and Place of Meeting, You should give early Notice of it; and this leads Us to recommend one thing more

to

to your attention, and that is, to take Care that all the Provinces be (if practicable) comprised in one general Treaty to be made in his Majesties Name; it appearing to Us, that the Practice of each Province making a separate Treaty for itself in its own Name is very improper and may be attended with great Inconvenience to his Majesties Service.

Then was read a Letter from Governor Shirley in the Words following

Boston. November 26. 1753.

Sir,

I received by the last Post a Letter from the Earl of Holdernesse dated 28th August past (a circular one, as it appears to be, to all his Majesties Governors in North America) acquainting me that his Majesty had received Information of the March of a considerable Number of Indians, not in Alliance with Him, supported by some regular European Troops, intending, as it is apprehended, to commit some Hostilities on Parts of his Majesties Dominions in America; and directing me to use my utmost Diligence, to learn how far the same may be well grounded: acquainting me also that his Lordship had it particularly in charge to let me know, that it was his Majesties Royal Will and Pleasure, that I should keep up an exact Correspondence with all his Majesties Governors on the Continent; and in case I should be informed by any of them, of any hostile Attempts, that I should immediately assemble the General Assembly within my Government, and lay before them the Necessity of a mutual Assistance, and engage them to grant such Supplies, as the Exigency of Affairs may require.

In Obedience to these Directions, as I have heard imperfect Accounts of some late ..... Hostilities committed by a Body of Indians supported by French Troops upon his Majesties Territories, within the Limits of your Honours Government, and of a Fort's being erected there by them, I trouble You with this Letter to let You know that in case these Reports (concerning the Occasion of which I shall be obliged to You for a particular Information) are well grounded, and your Honour hath Thoughts of attempting to remove the French from their Encroachments by the armed Force of the People within your Government, and shall stand in need of Assistance from his Majesties other Colonies on the Continent, I will most gladly concur with You in that Service, by endeavouring to procure from the General Assembly of this Province their due Proportion of Supplies upon this Occasion: always depending upon the Assembly of your Honour's Government granting the like Assistance to the People of this Province, whenever they shall stand in need of it against any Encroachments, or Invasions made upon his ..... Majesties Territories within their Limits; which, from your Honour's known Spirit and Zeal for promoting his Majesties Service, and the general Prosperity of his american Colonies, I can't entertain the least Doubt of your most ready Disposition to obtain upon any proper Emergency.

I shall be very glad to maintain a strict Correspondence with You pursuant to his Majesties Commands signified to me in the Earl of Holdernesse's before mentioned Letter.

I am with great Esteem

Sir

Your Honours most humble
and most obedient Servant

W Shirley

The Honoble James Hamilton Esqr

And then was read again Lord Holdernesse's Letter of the twenty eighth Day of August last formerly entered in the Minutes of Council.

After which the Governor's Message to the Assembly was taken into Consideration and approved; and is as follows.

A

Pennsylvania. 1754.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

Having in September last received a Letter, by Express, from Col. Fairfax of Virginia, informing me that some Chiefs of the Ohio Indians were then at Winchester, soliciting the Assistance of that Government, and intended as soon as they should have finished there, to come to Carlisle, in the County of Cumberland, where they entreated I would be pleased to ..... give them the Meeting; I assembled the Council, and being favoured with the Attendance of ... the Speaker, and such Members of your House as were in Town, I laid it before them for their Advice, who were unanimously of Opinion, that a Conference with these Indians might afford a good Opportunity of becoming acquainted with a true State of their Dispositions and Affairs; and that proper Presents should be provided out of the Sum voted by the Assembly in the Month of May last, and there distributed for their Service and Relief. Entirely concurring with these ..... Sentiments, as my own Health did not permit me to undertake such a Journey, I issued a Commission to Mr. Peters, Mr. Norris and Mr. Franklyn, empowering them to hold a Treaty with these Indians, and to make them the Presents of Condolance, and such others as they should find suitable, on being truly informed of their Necessities; who accordingly proceeded to Carlisle, and held a Treaty with them: For the Particulars whereof, together with the Expences accruing thereon, I shall refer You to the Treaty itself, and the Commissioners who are Members of your House.

I have received a Letter from the Right Honourable the Earl of Holdernesse, one of his Majesties Principal Secretaries of State, which, with others of the like Tenor to all his Majesties ..... Governors on the Continent, was sent Express by a Sloop of War to Virginia; wherein his Majesty lays his Royal Commands on me, in case the Subjects of any Foreign Prince shall have presumed to make Encroachments, erect Forts, or commit any other Hostilities within his Majesties Dominions, if, after representing to them the Injustice of their Proceedings, they do not desist, to draw forth the armed Force of the Province, and to endeavour to repel Force by Force; and to call the Assembly, and to engage them to grant such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs may require. Whilst I was preparing to make the Requisition enjoined by his Majesty, I received a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie, informing me that he had dispatched Major Washington on that Service, to the Fort lately built on the Ohio by the French, and an Express has this Week brought me Governor Dinwiddies Account of that Gentleman's Return, with the Answer of the Commander of the Fort, who avows the ... Hostilities already committed, and declares his Orders from the King of France are to build more Forts, take Possession of all the Country, and oppose all who shall resist, English as well as Indians, and that he will certainly execute these Orders as early as the Season will permit.

Gentlemen, French Forts, and French Armies so near us, will be everlasting Goads in our Sides; our Inhabitants from thence will feel all the Miseries and dreadful Calamities that have been heretofore suffered by our Neighbour Colonies; all those Outrages, Murders, Rapines and Cruelties, to which their People have been exposed, are now going to be experienced by Ourselves, unless a Force be immediately raised sufficient to repel these Invaders. It is to be hoped therefore, that as Loyal ..... Subjects to his Majesty, and in Justice to your Country, You will not fail to take into your Consideration the present Exigency of Affairs, and, as it will be attended with a very considerable Expence, and require a large Number of Men, make Provision accordingly, that I may be enabled to do what his Majesty, as well as the neighbouring Colonies, will expect from a Government so populous, and likely to be so nearly affected with the Neighbourhood of French Garrisons.

I have further to inform You, that I have received a Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, dated the eighteenth Day of September last, informing me that his Majesty has ordered an Interview to be held the next Summer at Albany, with the Six Nations, and a large Present to be there distributed, and desiring I will lay this Matter before You, and recommend to You to make Provision for appointing Commissioners, to be joined with those of the other Governments, and for Indian Presents; and it being left to the Governor of New York to appoint the Time of this Interview, he has ...

informed

informed me by Letter, that he has fixed the Thirteenth or Fourteenth of June next for that Purpose; further acquainting me that the Lords of Trade have recommended it to him, to take Care that all the Provinces be (if practicable) comprised in one general Treaty to be made in his Majesties Name, it appearing to their Lordships that the Practice of each Province making a separate Treaty for itself in its own Name, is very improper, and may be attended with great Inconveniences to his Majesties Service.

Several Letters have passed between me and the Governors of New York, Virginia and the Massachusets, in which they make this Province the Tender of their Assistance, express an hearty Desire of acting in Concert with us against his Majesties Enemies; concur in Sentiment with his Majesties Ministers of the Necessity of a general Union of all the Provinces, both in Councils and Forces: and as Experience, the best of Instructors, makes it evident beyond a Doubt, that without this, his Majesties Colonies in America are in Danger of being swallowed up by an Enemy, otherwise much inferior to them in Strength and Numbers, I most earnestly recommend it to You, and hope what is so well and justly said, on this and other Matters, by Lord Holdernesse, the Lords of Trade, and the neighbouring Governors, will have their full Force and Weight with You in your Deliberations.

The several Matters set forth in the late Treaty at Carlisle, evince the Necessity of appointing some Person to reside at Ohio among the Indians there, in whom the Government can place a Confidence; and, unless you can engage some such Persons, You must be sensible that your Presents will be of little Use, and the Indians will be lost to the English Interest.

You will likewise do the Publick great Service, if, together with this necessary Measure, You will take the Indian Trade into your Consideration, and put it into some Order, for I am entirely of Opinion with the Commissioners, that this is absolutely necessary, as well for the Indians as for ourselves; and should be pleased it was well considered, and a Bill prepared for the Purpose.

Gentlemen, there is so much to be done, and so little time to do it in, the Season being so far advanced, and Governor Dinwiddie expecting the Forces from this Province to join those of Virginia, early in March on Patowmack, that I most earnestly entreat You will not delay the Supplies, nor deal them out with a sparing Hand, but use all the Expedition in your Power; for You will undoubtedly agree with me, that so alarming an Occasion has not occurred since the first Settlement of the Province, nor any one thing happened that so much deserves your serious Attention.

The Secretary has my Orders to lay before You the several Letters and Papers mentioned in this Message, or otherwise necessary to give You a perfect Knowledge of all Matters You may want to be informed of in the Course of your Deliberations

James Hamilton.

February 14. 1754.

ing them. But I must not omit to acquaint your Lordship that in the present case it falls out most unfortunately that if the Bounds of the British Empire on this Continent have ever been ascertained, the Particulars thereof are what I am very much a Stranger to after repeated enquiries upon that head, for which reason I should have been extremely glad of your Lordship's Explanation upon a Point that I am persuaded is not well understood in this Part of the World; upon which, nevertheless, the Settlement and consequently the Strength of his Majestie's Dominions in America does very much depend, and without the knowledge thereof it seems impossible for the Governors of these Colonies to say what are or are not the undoubted Limits of his Majestie's Dominions.

"I have some reason to believe that one or more Forts have been lately built by the French within the extreme Limits of this Province to the Westward; but as the Western Bounds thereof have never been actually run I cannot speak with Certainty. I shall however use my utmost Diligence to learn how far the Information I have received touching such Encroachments on his Majestie's Dominions may be depended on, of which I shall do myself the Honour to acquaint your Lordship in a further account, as well as of the other Particulars mentioned in your Lordship's Letter, as soon as they shall be known to me.

"I am, May it please your Lordship, Your Lordship's most obedient and most humble Servant,

JAMES HAMILTON.

"PENNSYLVANIA, November 25th, 1753."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday the 13th Day of February, 1754.

PRESENT:

John Penn,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	Esquires.
Thomas Lawrence,	Joseph Turner,	
Robert Strettell,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

MEMORANDUM.

On the fourth Instant Two Members waited on the Governor to acquaint him that the House was met according to their Adjournment, and desired to know if he had any thing to lay before them. The Governor had been some time confined to his Chamber by a tedious Sickness, and was then too much indisposed to admit them to speak to him; therefore ordered the Secretary to inform them of his Indisposition, and that he would send a Message to the House in the morning; and accordingly he sent them this verbal Message

by the Secretary, That "the Governor was sorry to find himself prevented by Indisposition from now communicating to the House in a proper manner sundry Letters which he some time since received as well from his Majestie's Ministers as from several of the neighbouring Governors relating to Indian Affairs, which, nevertheless, he hoped yet shortly to be able to do if it should please God to favour him with the recovery of his Health.

"In the mean time it would be equally agreeable to him whether the House thought fit to come to a short Adjournment or should proceed to prepare such Business as they might have to lay before him, when his Health would permit him to receive it, which he would willingly hope will not be long."

Yesterday Two Members waited on the Governor in his Chamber, as he was still indisposed, with an Order for Five Hundred Pounds on the Treasurer, and the following Message, "That the House, on receiving the Governor's Message of the fifth Instant, were concerned to hear of his ill State of Health; but as he then gave them some Expectation that he should in a short time be able to proceed upon the publick Business, and acquainted them that it was equal to him whether they made a short Adjournment or proceeded to prepare such Business as they might have to lay before him, they have chose to continue their present Sitting, as being in the most suitable Season with Regard to their private Affairs, hoping the Governor's Indisposition would not long continue; and as they now have the Pleasure of hearing that his Health is in a great Measure restored, they beg Leave to acquaint him that they have prepared some Business to lay before him whenever it may suit him to receive the same." To which the Governor was pleased to say "That he thanked the House for the Order, and that he expected in two or three Days his Health would permit him to receive any Business the House might have to lay before him."

The Governor by his Secretary informed the Council that his bad State of health would not permit him to come to Council, and desired they would carefully peruse the Draught of a Message he intended to send to the assembly, with the several Letters therein referred to, and give him their opinion thereon.

Then was read a Letter of the Lords of Trade in the following words:

"WHITEHALL, September 18th, 1753.

"Sir:

"His Majesty having been pleased to order a Sum of Money to be issued for Presents to the Six Nations of Indians, and to direct his Governor of New York to hold an Interview with them for delivering these Presents, for burying the Hatchet, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, We think it our Duty to acquaint you therewith; and as we find it has been usual upon former occasions,

when an Interview has been held with these Indians, for all his Majestie's Colonies whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them to join in such Interview, and as the present Disposition of those Indians and the attempts which have been made to withdraw them from the British Interest appear to us to make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this time, We desire You to lay this Matter before the Council and general Assembly of the Province under your Governm^{t} and recommend to them forthwith to make a proper Provision for appointing Commissioners to be joined with those of the other Governments for renewing the Covenant Chain with the Six Nations, and for making such Presents to them as has been usual upon the like Occasions. And we desire that in the Choice and Nomination of the Commissioners You will take Care that they are Men of Character, Ability, and Integrity, and well acquainted with Indian affairs.

"As to the Time and Place of Meeting, it is left to the Governor of New York to fix it, and he has Orders to give you early Notice of it.

"We are, Sir,

"Your very loving Friends and humble Servants,

"DUNK HALIFAX,
"J. GRENVILLE,
"DUPPLIN.

"JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire,

"*Lt. Governor of Pennsylvania.*"

And a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie in the following words:

"WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia, November 24th, 1753.

"Sir:

"Your Letter of the 30th of October came to my Hands this Day, as also Copy of Your's to Governor Glen. I sent an Express to that Gentleman three weeks ago, and then, agreeably to Scarrooyady's Desire, I wrote him to acquaint me the Reasons for confining some of the Shawanese Indians, who were in Friendship with the English, but Scarrooyady desired the Commissioner from me at Winchester not to insist on their Release without the Six Nations' Direction. Andrew Montour, who is here from the Six Nations, desires their Release and to be sent thither, which I shall strenuously desire Mr. Glen to do, and when they come here shall send them to their Nation.

"The French Governors must be invested with more Power than those from Great Britain to invade his Majestie's Lands in the Time of confirm'd Peace between the Two Crowns and to build Forts; as my Power is more enlarged by a late Instruction from Home, I have sent a Person of Distinction to the Commander of the French Forces on the Ohio to know his Reasons for this unjustifiable Step

in invading our Lands. I have desired him to write me by what Authority he proceeds in this unjust and unwarrantable Manner, and have desired him immediately to return, otherwise I shall be obliged to follow the Directions and Powers invested in me from his Majesty of Great Britain by repelling Force by Force. The Messenger has been gone three Weeks; when he returns I shall acquaint You of his Proceedings, Reception, and Answer of the French Officer.

"We have several Workmen gone out to build a Fort at the Forks of Mohongialo with the Approbation and desire of the Indians, but if the French have embarked and gone down the River I fear they will prevent our Designs.

"I am fully of Opinion that all the Colonies should join in opposing the Designs of the French, for they will be cruel bad Neighbours if allowed to settle so near our Western Frontiers.

"Our Assembly is now sitting; I have by Order from Home represented to them the Necessity of a proper Supply in case of Need, but I fear they will be very backward therein unless the Messenger I sent to the French returns before the House is up; they say if occasion they will readily come into a Supply, but this Dominion is so extensive and the Expence of calling the House of Burgesses so very large that I wish they may do it now.

"I shall write Mr. Glen of the Necessity and Usefulness of enlarging those Indians. The Commissioner I sent to Winchester was chiefly to deliver a Present to the Twightwees and to receive their Assurances of Friendship to the British Subjects, and to ask them and some of the Chiefs of the other Nations of Indians to meet me at Winchester next May, when I propose to give them a considerable Present and to endeavour to make Peace between the Northern and Southern Indians; after that to make a strict Alliance between the many different Tribes and the King of Great Britain and his Subjects setled on this Continent. I shall therefore be glad of your Assistance in an Affair I think so necessary for our Mother County, the Trade and Safety of these Colonies. The Express I sent to New York is not yet returned, which gives me some Uneasiness.

"I presume the Letter I sent You by him was from the Earl of Holdernesse, I suppose for a mutual Supply from all the Colonies. I shall be glad if so to know the Disposition of your People on this present Emergency.

"My time is much taken up with the Assembly, therefore can only say farther, that I remain with sincere Regard and Respect,

"Sir, Your obedient humble Servant,

"ROB^{T}. DINWIDDIE.

"Governor HAMILTON."

Then was read another Letter from Governor Dinwiddie in the following Words:

"WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia, January 29th, 1754.

"Sir:

"The Return of the Gentleman whom I sent Express to the French Commandant to know what Steps the French were taking on the Ohio, enables me to acquaint your Honour that on his arrival there he found that the French had taken Post on a Branch of that River and built a Fort, wherein they had mounted eight Pieces of Cannon, Six Pounders, and that they had in Readiness Materials for other Forts, which they declared their Intentions to erect on the River, and particularly at Log's Town, the Place destined for their Chief Residence, so soon as the Season would permit them to embark; and for which Purpose He saw two hundred and twenty Canoes ready finished, besides a great number more blocked out. Having delivered his Credentials and my Letter, he complained to the Commander of the Violence that had been offered to his Majestie's Subjects in seizing their Effects and making Prisoners of their Persons, to which he was answered, 'That the Country belonged to them; that no Englishman had a Right to trade upon those Waters, and that he (the Commandant) had orders to make every Person Prisoner that attempted it on the Ohio, or the Waters of it.'

"Your Honour will perceive these to be their Sentiments by the enclosed, and it were superfluous to advance many arguments with so discerning and Sagacious a Servant of our Master to prove the Urgency that presses every one of his Majestie's Colonies to exert themselves on this Occasion to Vindicate the Honour and Dignity of his Crown, and justify his undoubted Rights against the Invaders of the British Property.

"The Power of our Enemies is far from being contemptible, and it is as certain they will exert its utmost Efforts to procure all possible Advantages against Us. They have already engaged Three Indian Nations, the Chippoways, Ottoways, and Orundacks, to take up arms against the English, and from the best Information Major Washington learned that the French had Four Forts on the Mississippi, besides their Strong Settlement at New Orleans, where they have above Fourteen Hundred Men in Garrison; That by means of the River Ovabaseek they have Communication between Canada and the Mississippi, and some Forts on the Owabesh to cover and protect this Communication.

"Before they sent their Troops into Winter Quarters last Fall they called the several Tribes of Indians near their Fort together and told them that altho' the approaching Season and the State at that time of the Waters made it necessary to send the chief of their Forces into Winter Quarters, yet they might be assured to see

them early in the Spring with a much more considerable Armament, and that then they would take Possession of the Ohio, and threatned them if they were not entirely passive.

"These Circumstances induced me to order out for the present a Detachment of the Militia and call together the Assembly, which I have ordered to meet the fourteenth of next Month, and hope they will enable me to take more vigorous Measures, which I shall then do with all Expedition, and propose to have what Men I can raise at Will's Creek on the head of Patowmack River early in March, which I have chosen for a Place of Rendezvous, as being more generally convenient for us all and nearest the Scene of action.

"It may, perhaps, interfere with the Service to divide the Command, and therefore I should be glad to find that it were agreeable to you to entrust my general Officer with the command of the Forces You can prevail with your Assembly to raise on this occasion.

"I have no doubt but you will be qualified upon this present Situation of our Affairs to raise a considerable Force for defeating the Designs of the French, and as you have many Persons among You that understand the Lands upon the Ohio, they will be able to give you proper Intelligence; but it appears to me absolutely necessary to be very early on the Ohio with such Forces as we possibly can collect together; and as I have no doubt of your earnest Inclination to promote the Dignity of the Crown and the Safety of these Colonies, I pray an Answer on the Return of this Express, and am, with great Respect, Sir,

"Your most humble Servant,

"ROB$^{T.}$ DINWIDDIE.

"Governor HAMILTON."

In which was enclosed the following Letter from the French Commander to the Governor of Virginia:

"Monsieur:

"Comme j'ai l'honneur de commander en Chef, Monsieur Washington, m'a remus la lettre que vous ecriviez au Commandant des Trouppes Francoises.

"J'aurois ete charme que vous lui eussiez donne ordre on qu'il ent ete dispose a se rendre en Canada pour voir Monsieur notre General, au quel il appertient mieux qu'a moi de mettre au jour l'evidence, et la realite des droits du Roi mon Maitre sur les Terres scituees le long de la belle Rivicre, et de contester les Pretentions du Roi de la grande Bretagne a cet egard.

"Je vais adresser votre lettre a Monsieur Le Marquis Duquisne; sa reponse me servira de loi, et sil m'ordonne de vous la communi-

quer, Monsieur, je puis vous assurer que Je negligerai vieu pour vous la faire tenir promptement.

"Quant a la Sommation que vous me faites de me retirer, je ne me crois pas dans l'obligation de m'y rendre; quelques que puissent etre vos Instructions, Je suis ici en vertu desordres de mon General, et je vous prie, Monsieur, de ne pas douter un instant que je suis dans la constante Resolution de m'y conformer avec tout l'exactitude, et la fermete que l'on peut attendre du meilleur Officier.

"J'ignore que dans le cours de cettee Compagne il se soit rien passe qui puisse etre repute pour Acte d'hostilite, ne qui soit contraire aux traitez qui subsistent entre les deux Couronnes, dont la Continuation nous interresse, et nous flattee autant que Messieurs les Anglois. S'il vous eut ete agreeable, Monsieur, d'en venir sur ce point a un detail particulier des faits qui motivent votre plainte, j'aurois eu l'honneur de vous repondre de la facon la plus positive, et je suis persuade, que vous auries en lieu d'etre satisfait.

"Je me suis fait un Devoir particulier de recevoir Monsieur Washington avec la Distinction qui convient a votre Dignette a sa Qualite et a son grand Merite; je puis me flatter qu'il me rendra cette Justice au pres de vous, Monsieur et qu'il vous fera connoitre ainsi que moi le Respect profond avec lequel je suis.

"Monsieur, votres tres humble et tres obeissant Serviteur.

"LEGARDEUR DE S^{T} PIERRE.

"Du Fort de la Riviere, au beuf le 15 xbre, 1753."

Then was read a Letter from Governor Delancy in the following Words:

"NEW YORK, 7th December, 1753.

"Sir:

"I have lately received a Letter from the Commanding Officer at Oswego of the eighth November, acquainting me that since his former to Governor Clinton the greatest Part of the French Army that went up this Summer to Ohio had re-passed Oswego, from whom Two Men deserted, the One an Englishman taken at Minas during the late War, the Other a Frenchman; that from these he learned that the French have not been able to accomplish their Designs on the Ohio by reason of the Indians, but threaten a second Tryal next Year; they also informed him that the French Army had been very sickly, and great numbers had died of the Scurvy through the badness of their Provisions, and that the Indians to the Southward had not only bid them Defiance but had forced from them both Provisions and Brandy several times; they farther informed him that the French had taken Two English Prisoners whom they sent

to Canada in Irons. I communicate this piece of Intelligence as it cannot but be agreeable to You, if the Information contained in the Letter be true. You will observe the French threaten to renew their attempts next Year; this they will probably do unless the Difficulties which they may apprehend from the Indians in the Execution should deter them. The French building Forts and making Settlements on the Ohio will prove of pernicious Consequences to his Majestie's Dominions, for as that River (according to the Idea I have of the Country) is much nearer to the back Settlements than the Course the French used to take through the Lakes, they will more easily make Incursions upon the British Subjects, being near and having a Place of Retreat and Security at their Forts, they will intercept the Indian Trade, and draw the Indians into a greater dependance on them than is consistent with the Safety of his Majestie's Subjects in that Part of America; if the French have Forts at proper Places on the Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia may find that in another War they will become as sharp Thorns in their Sides as Fort St Frederick at Crown Point is to Massachusetts Bay and New York. These Considerations may perhaps deserve the attention of Mr. Penn and your Assembly.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

"JAMES DELANCY.

"The Honble. Governor HAMILTON."

Then was read another Letter from Governor De Lancey, enclosing an Extract of a Letter from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, both which are in the following words:

"NEW YORK, 11th December, 1753.

"Sir:

"On Friday last I received the enclosed Letter with others to the Governors of Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, New Hampshire, and the Massachusetts Bay, from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations, to be forwarded as addressed, and as they are referred to in their Lordship's Letter to me, I enclose you an Extract of it, in Pursuance of which I proposed an Interview with the Indians at Albany on the thirteenth or fourteenth Day of next June; the Assembly here have this Day resolved that they will make Provision for the Presents usually given on such Occasions, and for the Expence of my Voyage thither, so that I intend to meet the Indians at the Time and Place above mentioned. The Assembly have also resolved upon my laying before them the Letter from the Earl of Holdernesse, that they will make a suitable Provision for assisting any of the neighboring Colonies to repel Force by Force in case they be invaded in an hostile manner by any

Force whatsoever. This I thought necessary to communicate to you.

"I am, with great Esteem, Sir,

"Your Honour's most obedient and most humble Servant,

"JAMES DE LANCEY.

"His Honour JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Governor of Pennsylvania."

—

Extract of a Letter from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, dated September 18th, 1753.

"As we find it has been usual upon former Occasions when an Interview has been held with the Indians for the other neighbouring Governments in Alliance with them to send Comissioners to be joined with those of New York, and as the present wavering Disposition of the Indians equally affects the other Provinces, we have wrote to the Governors of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, and New Jersey, desiring them to represent to their respective Assemblies the Utility and Necessity of this Measure, and to urge them to make proper Provision for it; and therefore it will be necessary that when you have settled the Time and Place of Meeting You should give early notice of it; and this leads us to recommend one thing more to your Attention, and that is, to take Care that all the Provinces be (if practicable) comprized in one general Treaty, to be made in his Majestie's Name—it appearing to Us that the Practice of each Province making a seperate Treaty for itself in its own Name is very improper and may be attended with great Inconvenience to his Majestie's Service."

Then was read a Letter from Governor Shirley in the Words following:

"BOSTON, November 26, 1753.

"Sir:

"I received by the last Post a Letter from the Earl of Holdernesse, dated 28th August past (a circular one, as it appears to be, to all his Majestie's Governors in North America), acquainting me that his Majesty had received Information of the March of a considerable Number of Indians not in Alliance with Him, supported by some regular European Troops, intending, as it is apprehended, to commit some Hostilities on Parts of his Majestie's Dominions in America; and directing me to use my utmost Diligence to learn how far the same may be well grounded; acquainting me also that his Lordship had it particularly in charge to let me know that it was his Majestie's Royal Will and Pleasure that I should keep up an exact Correspondence with all his Majestie's Governors on the Continent; and in case I should be informed by any of them of

any hostile Attempts, that I should immediately assemble the General Assembly within my Government, and lay before them the Necessity of a mutual assistance, and engage them to grant such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs may require.

"In Obedience to these Directions, as I have heard imperfect Accounts of some late Hostilities committed by a Body of Indians, supported by French Troops, upon his Majestie's Territories within the Limits of your Honour's Government, and of a Fort's being erected there by them, I trouble You with this Letter to let You know that in case these reports (concerning the Occasion of which I shall be obliged to You for a particular Information) are well grounded, and your Honour hath Thoughts of attempting to remove the French from their Encroachments by the armed Force of the People within your Government, and shall stand in need of Assistance from his Majestie's other Colonies on the Continent, I will most gladly concur with You in that Service by endeavouring to procure from the General Assembly of the Province their due Proportion of Supplies upon this Occasion; always depending upon the Assembly of your Honour's Government granting the like assistance to the People of this Province whenever they shall stand in need of it against his Majestie's Territories within their Limits, which, from your Honour's known Spirit and Zeal for promoting his Majestie's Service and the general Prosperity of his American Colonies, I can't entertain the least Doubt of your most ready Disposition to obtain upon any proper Emergency.

"I shall be very glad to maintain a strict Correspondence with You pursuant to his Majestie's Commands, signified to me in the Earl of Holdernesse's before-mentioned Letter.

"I am, with great Esteem, Sir,

"Your Honour's most humble and most obedient Servant,

"W. SHIRLEY.

"The Honoble. JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr"

And then was read again Lord Holdernesse's Letter of the twenty eighth Day of August last, formerly entered in the Minutes of Council.

After which the Governor's Message to the Assembly was taken into Consideration and approved, and is as follows:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"Having in September last received a Letter by Express from Col. Fairfax of Virginia, informing me that some Chiefs of the Ohio Indians were then at Winchester soliciting the assistance of that Government, and intended as soon as they should have finished there to come to Carlisle in the County of Cumberland, where they en-

treated I would be pleased to give them the Meeting, I assembled the Council, and being favored with the attendance of the Speaker and such Members of your House as were in Town, I laid it before them for their advice, who were unanimously of opinion that a Conference with these Indians might afford a good opportunity of becoming acquainted with a true State of their Dispositions and affairs, and the proper Presents should be provided out of the Sum voted by the Assembly in the Month of May last, and there distributed for their service and Relief. Entirely concurring with these Sentiments, as my own Health did not permit me to undertake such a Journey, I issued a Commission to Mr. Peters, Mr. Norris, and Mr. Franklyn, empowering them to hold a Treaty with those Indians, and to make them the Presents of Condolence and such others as they shall find suitable on being truly informed of their Necessities, who accordingly proceeded to Carlisle and held a Treaty with them; For the Particulars whereof, together with the Expences acruing thereon, I shall refer you to the Treaty itself and the Commissioners who are Members of your House.

"I have received a Letter from the Right Honourable the Earl of Holdernesse, one of his Majestie's Principal Secretaries of State, which with others of the like Tenor to all his Majestie's Governors on the Continent, was sent Expressly by a Sloop of War to Virginia wherein his Majesty lays his Royal Commands on me, in case the Subjects of any Foreign Prince shall have presumed to make Encroachments, erect Forts, or commit any other Hostilities within His Majestie's Dominions, if after representing to them the Injustice of their proceedings they do not desist, to draw forth the armed Force of the Province and to endeavour to repel Force by Force, and to call the Assembly and to engage them to grant such Supplies as the Exigincy of Affairs may require. Whilst I was preparing to make the Requisition enjoined by his Majesty, I received a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie informing me that he had dispatched Major Washington on that Service to the Fort lately built on the Ohio by the French, and an Express has this week brought me Governor Dinwiddie's account of that Gentleman's Return, with the answer of the Commander of that Fort, who avows the Hostilities already committed, and declares his Orders from the King of France are to build more Forts, take Possession of all the Country, and oppose all who shall resist, English as well as Indians, and that he will certainly execute these Orders as early as the Season will permit.

"Gentlemen: French Forts and French Armies so near us will be everlasting Goads in our Sides; our Inhabitants from thence will feel all the Miseries and dreadful Calamities that have been heretofore Suffered by our Neighbour Colonies. All those Outrages, Murders, Rapines, and Cruelties, to which their People have been exposed, are now going to be experienced by ourselves unless a Force be immediately raised sufficient to repel these Invaders. It

is to be hoped, therefore, that as Royal Subjects to his Majesty and in Justice to your Country You will not fail to take into your Consideration the present Exiginey of Affairs; and as it will be attended with a very considerable Expence, and require a large number of Men, make provision accordingly, that I may be enabled to do what his Majesty as well as the neighboring Colonies will expect from a Government so populous and likely to be so nearly affected with the Neighbourhood of French Garrisons.

"I have further to inform You that I have received a Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, dated the eighteenth Day of September last, informing me that his Majesty has ordered an Interview to be held the next Summer at Albany with the Six Nations, and a large Present to be there distributed, and desiring I will lay this Matter before you, and recommend to You to make Provision for appointing Commissioners to be joined with those of the other Governments, and for Indian Presents; and it being left to the Governor of New York to appoint the Time of this Interview he has informed me by Letter that he has fixed the Thirteenth or Fourteenth of June next for that Purpose; further acquainting me that the Lords of Trade have recommended it to him to take Care that all the Provinces be (if practicable) comprised in one general Treaty to be made in his Majestie's Name, it appearing to their Lordships that the Practice of each Province making a seperate Treaty for itself in its own Name is very improper, and may be attended with great Inconveniences to his Majestie's Service.

"Several Letters have passed between me and the Governor of New York, Virginia, and the Massachusetts, in which they make this Province the Tender of their Assistance, express an hearty Desire of acting in Concert with Us against his Majestie's Enemies, concur in Sentiment with His Majestie's Ministers of the Necessity of a general Union of all the Provinces both in Councils and Forces; and as Experience, the best of Instructors, makes it evident beyond a Doubt that without this his Majestie's Colonies in America are in Danger of being swallowed up by an Enemy otherwise much inferior to them in Strength and Numbers, I most earnestly recommend it to You, and hope what is so well and justly said on this and other Matters by Lord Holdernesse, the Lords of Trade, and the neighbouring Governors, will have their full Force and Weight with You in your Deliberations.

"The several Matters set forth in the late Treaty at Carlisle evince the Necessity of appointing some Person to reside at Ohio among the Indians there in whom the Government can place a Confidence; and unless you can engage some such Persons You must be sensible that your Presents will be of little Use, and the Indians will be lost to the English Interest.

"You will likewise do the Publick great Service if together with this necessary Measure You will take the Indian Trade into your

Consideration and put it into some Order, for I am entirely of Opinion with the Commissioners that this is absolutely necessary as well for the Indians as for ourselves, and should be pleased it was well considered and a Bill prepared for the Purpose.

"Gentlemen: there is so much to be done and so little time to do it in, the Season being so far advanced, and Governor Dinwiddie expecting the Forces from this Province to join those of Virginia early in March on Patowmack, that I most earnestly entreat You will not delay the Supplies nor deal them out with a sparing Hand, but use all the Expedition in your Power; for You will undoubtedly agree with me that so alarming an Occasion has not occurred since the first Settlement of the Province, nor any one thing happen'd that so much deserves your serious Attention.

"The Secretary has my Orders to lay before You the several Letters and Papers mentioned in this Message, or otherwise necessary to give You a perfect knowledge of all Matters you may want to be informed of in the Course of your Deliberations.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"February 14, 1754."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 19th of February, 1754.

PRESENT:

John Penn,	Thomas Lawrence,	Esquires.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Robert Strettell,	
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor, still indisposed, sent to the Council for their Consideration a Message which had been delivered him by Two Members of Assembly on the Fourteenth Instant, which was read in these Words:

"May it please the Governor—

"We gratefully acknowledge the Governor's Care in all our Indian Affairs, and more particularly at this critical Juncture; it therefore cannot but be very agreeable to us to find he has already so far recovered his Health as to join with Us in the Publick Business now before the House.

"The distressed Circumstances of the Indians our Allies on the River Ohio demand our closest Attention, and we shall not fail to proceed in the Matters contained in the Governor's Message with all the Dispatch an Affair of so much Importance will admit of, in which we doubt not to comply with every thing that can be reasonably expected on our Parts.

Consideration and put it into some Order, for I am entirely of Opinion with the Commissioners that this is absolutely necessary as well for the Indians as for ourselves, and should be pleased it was well considered and a Bill prepared for the Purpose.

"Gentlemen: there is so much to be done and so little time to do it in, the Season being so far advanced, and Governor Dinwiddie expecting the Forces from this Province to join those of Virginia early in March on Patowmack, that I most earnestly entreat You will not delay the Supplies nor deal them out with a sparing Hand, but use all the Expedition in your Power; for You will undoubtedly agree with me that so alarming an Occasion has not occurred since the first Settlement of the Province, nor any one thing happen'd that so much deserves your serious Attention.

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"In the meantime having some Days since prepared a Bill which we conceive absolutely necessary not only to the Trade and Welfare of this Province but to the Support of Government, upon the Success of which our Deliberations at this Time must in a great Measure depend, We now lay it before him as a Bill of the utmost Importance, and to which We unanimously request he would be pleased to give his Assent.

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"In Assembly, February 14th, 1754."

And then the Bill was read, entituled "An Act for Striking the Sum of Forty Thousand Pounds, to be made Current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province."

The Council calling to Mind the Assembly's passionate and indecent Treatment of the Governor the last Year on the Subject of King's Instruction, which could now no more than be dispensed with, thought it would be to no Purpose to renew that Dispute.

The Secretary was ordered to read the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the Governor's Message of the Seventh of September, 1753, entered in the Minutes of Assembly of the last Year; and as it contains Matters of a very extraordinary Nature it was thought proper that an Extract of it should be entered in the Council Minutes, which is as follows, vizt:

"As the Governor has been pleased to return the Bill for Striking Twenty Thousand Pounds to be made Current and emitted on Loan, and for re-emitting and continuing the Currency of the Bills of Credit of this Province, in a manner which denies any further access to him on that Head, except on the alternative of accepting the additional Clause proposed to be added to that Bill; and as that Clause upon the Vote of the House has been unanimously rejected, We have now no other Method to secure Ourselves from future Insinuations of being unfaithful to the high Trust reposed in us by our Constituents, but by leaving our Sentiments of the Governor's Amendment and Message on our Minutes in the Clearest manner We are able.

"In Obedience, therefore, to the Orders of the House, We have considered the Governor's Message of the seventh Instant, sent down with the Bill, and have likewise reconsidered the Votes of this House, to which the Governor is pleased to refer as a Proof that the Governor and Assembly in the Year 1746 thought the Lords Justices' additional Instruction, upon which the said Clause is founded, was neither illegal or temporary or destructive of the the Liberties granted to the People of this Province.

"The Governor is pleased to say it appears to him the then As-

sembly have clearly admitted the Validity of that Instruction in ordinary Cases, and that they only hoped the Governor on reconsidering the Royal Instruction might think himself at Liberty to give his Assent to a Bill for a further Sum of Money in Bills of Credit when any extraordinary Emergency required it. And yet notwithstanding the Governor's private Sentiments, it appears clear to Us that both the then Governor and the House too agreed in the essential Point that the additional Instruction of the 'Lords Justices was not binding upon either of them; for it is beyond all Contradiction that altho' Governor Thomas had sent down that Instruction to a former Assembly, and had again mentioned it at that Time, yet he gave his Assent to the Bill for granting Five Thousand Pounds for the King's Use, and the Money was raised, as we apprehend, in direct Opposition to the Instruction which expressly enjoins the Governor, and he is thereby required upon Pain of his Majestie's highest Displeasure, not to give His Assent to or pass any Act whereby Bills of Credit may be issued in lieu of Money, without a Clause be inserted in such Act declaring that the same shall not take Effect until the said Act shall be approved by his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors,' without the least Distinction between ordinary and extraordinary Cases; and if the Assembly made Use of those Distinctions to induce the Governor to think himself at Liberty to pass that Bill, and in Effect did convince him that the Instruction was not to be submitted to upon its own Terms, we must own he had a greater Regard to the Sentiments of that Assembly than we have any Reason to believe our Governor has to the repeated Requests of this House. And we have no Reason to doubt if we could prevail on our Governor to give his Assent to our Paper Money Bill this House would as readily assure him they hoped he might think himself at Liberty to pass that Bill and all other Bills presented to him by the Representatives of the Freemen of this Province, not only upon extraordinary Emergencies but in all ordinary Cases too, without the least apprehensions of his Majestie's Displeasure so far as those Laws were consistent with the Royal Charter.

"The Governor proceeds: 'That there has not been an Instance of passing any Law in this Province under the Restrictions contained in the amendment may be true; but he cannot think any Thing further can be inferred from thence than that no such Instruction was ever sent to the Governors of this Province before the Year 1740, otherwise it is reasonable to conclude they would have paid the same dutiful Obedience to it as was done by your late Governor.' Your Committee are at some Loss upon this Paragraph, whether they ought to produce other and older Instructions than the Year 1740, least the Governor should think himself obliged to pay a strict Obedience to these also; but as they are already printed in your Votes, which must now soon appear and the House probably will not order them to be erased, we shall only say that there was an additional

Instruction by the Lords Justices to Governor Keith, dated the twenty third of July, 1723, without any Limitation of Time (and we do not think it necessary to search for any more of them), the Original of which We presume must be in the Governor's Possession, commanding him among other Matters in these Words, 'You are to take Care that for the future You do not pass any private Act without a Clause inserted therein suspending the Execution of such Act until his Majestie's Royal Approbation shall be had thereof,' which notwithstanding the Governor neither does and We hope never will think himself obliged to observe.

"Having now taken it for granted the Instruction was allowed by the Governor and Assembly to be valid without Limitation of Time in the Year 1746, the Governor is pleased to say: 'Why, then, an Instruction allowed to be in Force in 1746, and still unrevoked, should be deemed to be of no effect, tho' the State of our Paper Currency has not suffered the least alteration since that time, is what he cannot comprehend.'

"It is our Misfortune that the Governor has been pleased to keep our Bill, the only Bill of this Year to this our last Session, without the least Intimation that he apprehended himself at all concerned or bound by an additional Instruction to Governor Thomas in the Year 1740, and now so Suddenly to foreclose us from any further Messages or Conferences on a Bill of so much Importance, otherwise we cannot doubt he must have been made sensible that the State of our Paper Currency (and our Trade too) has suffered a very considerable alteration within the Period the Governor is pleased to mention.

"That the States of all the Paper Curriencies in America at and since that Time under a Parliamentary Enquiry, have been since carefully examined by the House of Commons, appears by their Votes, and that the sum Current among us has likewise suffered an alteration, and a Diminution is consistent with our own Knowledge who have now sunk One Thousand Pounds besides the Fifteen Hundred Pounds sunk by former Assemblies in Discharge of so much of the Five Thousand Pounds granted to the King's use by the very act to which the Governor refers.

"But the Governor, unhapily for us, 'is sincerely of Opinion that the Royal Instruction is of the same Force at present as it was in the Year 1746, and that he cannot bring himself to think that he can ever be freed from the Obligation of paying a strict obedience to it until the same shall be revoked, or that he may be otherwise discharged from it by his Majestie's authority.' Unfortunate Pennsylvania, under such Sentiments! If the King should judge all the Purposes of that Instruction answered upon passing the Paper Money Act laid before him by his Parliament in 1751, we must, nevertheless, for ever continue under the Burden of it without Redress; and if we should suppose the Governor is restricted by the

Proprietaries from giving his assent to the Emission of any further sum in Bills of Credit, as we have very little Reason to doubt, if then the Proprietaries should be pleased to withdraw that Restriction and leave him at Liberty to pass all our Acts upon the Terms granted us by our Charters, what will this avail if the Governor continues to think he can never be freed from the Obligation of paying a strict obedience to this additional Instruction?

"Under these Circumstances how must the Proprietaries or Freemen of this Province conduct themselves to the Satisfaction of the Governor in order to be once more restored to the Rights granted to the Proprietaries and People of this Province by the Royal and Provincial Charters. That the Proprietaries may have some Influence over him is not improbable, but how far the good People or their Representatives may expect to have any on this or any other Occasion, we fear is too evident.

"The Governor is pleased to say in answer to our Message of the Fifth Instant upon the mischievous Tendency of the Bill brought into Parliament in 1749, 'That he is still of the same Opinion with Regard to that Bill, but thinks a moderate Share of Penetration is sufficient to distinguish between an Act to enforce all Orders and Instructions of the Crown of whatever nature, and a Royal Instruction founded on an address of the Parliament that only relates to one particular Point in which his Majestie's Prerogative may be supposed to be concerned, and besides is plainly calculated to do justice between Man and Man, and we must certainly allow him to be Judge of the Necessity he is under of paying Obedience to the King's Instruction when a disregard of it is threatned with his Majestie's highest Displeasure.'

"Upon which your Committee beg Leave to remark: They apprehend all Royal Orders and Instructions subject the Governors to whom they are directed, and their Successors too as the Governor is pleased to inform us, to the Royal Displeasure, unless such Instructions are revoked by his Majestie's Authority, and yet we cannot find that Governor Keith, to whom it was directed, or Governor Gordon his Successor, or Governor Thomas, or our present Governor, have ever thought themselves under any Danger of incurring his Majestie's Displeasure for a total neglect and direct Disobedience to the additional Instruction of the Lords Justices in 1723, the original of which we make no doubt, as well as of the Instruction of 1740, is in the Governor's Possession, and the Substance of both we know to be printed with the Minutes of our House. Why, then, an Instruction allowed to be in Force in 1723, and still unrevoked, should be of no Effect, and an additional Instruction of the Lords Justices in 1740, possibly revoked by the Conduct of the succeeding Sessions of the same Parliament, upon whose Address to his Majesty that Instruction was founded, should be so strictly binding, 'is what We cannot apprehend.'

"But the Governor is pleased to say, 'We must certainly allow him to be Judge of the Necessity he is under of paying Obedience to the King's Instructions when a Disregard of it is threatened with his Majestie's highest Displeasure.'

"If then the Governor, when he takes it for granted that We must certainly leave him to judge for himself in this case, is intended to mean 'That he cannot bring himself to think that he can ever be freed from the obligation of paying a strict Obedience to all Royal Instructions until the same shall be revoked, or that he may be otherwise discharged from them by his Majestie's Authority,' why then has he so totally disregarded the Lords Justices' additional Instruction of 1723.

"Or if the Governor means We must certainly leave him to judge of the Necessity of remembring or not remembring the Royal Instructions, as the one or the other may suit the Purposes of the Governor to whom they are directed, or such of his Successors as may claim a Protection under them, How is this to be reconciled with the great Regard the Governor is pleased to declare he has to the Liberties and Privileges of the People?

"Again, if he means Royal Instructions, if unknown to him, tho' possessed of the Originals, are not binding and cannot be attended with any Danger of his Majestie's Displeasure, why had he not been pleased to forget the Instruction of 1740 as well as the Instruction of 1723, since there appears no greater Danger, as far as we know, from a Disregard of one than of the other?

"But if the Liberty the Governor contends for can mean that We must allow him to judge for himself how far he may or may not obey such Royal Instructions at his own Risque (as his Majestie's highest Displeasure is threatened against him particularly) and at his own Pleasure too, then we must own we are at a Loss to distinguish any great Difference between the mischievous Tendency of an Act to enforce all Orders and Instructions of the Crown whatever, and the Necessity the Governor is pleased to think we are under to allow him the Power of enforcing them whenever he shall think fit, with this Preference, however, that We would far rather chuse to submit ourselves and our Cause to the King and the Justice of a British Parliament than to the meer Will of our Governor, whether to enforce or disregard them, however they may have answered their Ends or otherwise abated of their Force. And in the present Case we hope the Governor on Reflection will pay some Regard to the Judgment of the same Parliament, from which the Address to the Crown had been preferred to issue this additional Instruction, who altho' requested in their next Session by the Board of Trade to address the Crown again that he would be pleased to repeat his Instructions to the Governors in his American Colonies, have not only never complied therewith that we know of, but have since passed an Act for restraining the

Issuing the Bills of Credit in those particular Colonies where after a full Enquiry they found such Emissions injurious to the Trade of Great Britain or not calculated to do Justice between Man and Man, and have left Us, as we presume, exonerated from the Burden of this additional Instruction and in full Power over our Laws upon the Terms of our Charters; and so long as we ask nothing further than is warranted by these, we hope it neither will nor can interfere with the Royal Prerogatives.

"It may be presumed the Representatives of this Province when met in their Assemblies have some valuable Privileges yet left in framing their Laws to do Justice between Man and Man without the aid of an additional Instruction; and we hope it cannot be expected that we should very easily part with those Rights and depend on Royal Instructions over which we are to allow the Governor the Power he is pleased to contend for; and we have no reason to doubt all Men of Understanding and Candour will prefer a regular Course of Laws occasionally suited to the Times, and framed by the Representatives of the People annually chosen and assented to by their Governor, to a Series of Instructions sent for that Purpose from so great a Distance.

"For our own Part we are fully satisfied and assured that so long as we continue in our Duty and Loyalty to the best of Kings, who has been pleased to declare 'That nothing in this World can give him so much Pleasure as to see (his Subjects) a flourishing and happy People,' and neither claim nor desire other or greater Privileges than those we have a Right to under the Grant of his Royal Predecessors, we can have nothing to fear from the King or a British Parliament; and as it is our Duty to defend these in the best Manner we are able, in the faithful Discharge of so high a Trust we shall have the Satisfaction of our own Minds, and we hope the Countenance of all good Men, notwithstanding the Governor's Opinion that the Charge made against this Province (among other Charter Provinces) by the Board of Trade is not much to our advantage.

"Upon the whole, your Committee beg leave to add they apprehend it must be not only a Loss of Time to the Representatives, but a great Expence to the Country to prepare Bills for the Governor's Assent if he should be bound by private Instructions from our Proprietaries and should not be able to bring himself to think he could ever be freed from the Obligation of paying a strict obedience to these Instructions until the same should be revoked. That there are such Obligations or Instructions which may possibly have some Weight in the present Dispute, as well as the additional Instruction of 1740, your Committee have good Reason to believe. In order, therefore, to do Justice to our Governor as well as our Constituents, and to save all unnecessary Expence and Loss of Time to both, we submit to the Consideration of the House how far they

may judge it necessary to reccommend this Enquiry to the succeeding Assembly. Submitted to the Correction of the House by

"EVAN MORGAN,
"JOSHUA MORRIS,
"BENJ. FRANKLIN,
"HUGH ROBERTS,
"MAHLON KIRKBRIDE,
"GEORGE ASHBRIDGE,
"JAMES WRIGHT,
"JOHN WRIGHT,
"JOHN ARMSTRONG,
"MOSES STARR,
"JAMES BURNSIDE.

"In Assembly, 11th Septr 1753."

This Report discovers so much Heat and Unreasonableness in the Assembly that the Council thought it would be better to return the Bill with a Negative than amend it; and to recomend some other Method of raising Money.

Whereupon the Governor proposed the following Message, which was read and approved, and sent by the Secretary to the House.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"As neither my Inclination, the Shortness and Urgency of the Time, nor the Circumstances of my Health, will admit of my engaging in Controversy on the Subject of the Paper Money Bill lately presented for my Approbation, I will cut off all Occasions for that by giving, as I hereby do, an absolute Negative to the Bill.

"You cannot but be sensible, Gentlemen, that the Funds You are now possessed of, which are to continue yet for several Years without Diminution, are greatly more than sufficiont for the Support of Government; and notwithstanding what You are pleased to say of your 'present Deliberations depending in a great Measure upon the Success of your Money Bill,' I promise myself I shall find You much better Subjects to his Majesty, as well as greater Lovers of your Country, than to suffer your Duty to the One or your Zeal for the Preservation of the Other to be governed by a Concurrence or Disagreement of Sentiments between You and Me, upon a Point in which each of us have an independant Right to judge for ourselves.

"If, however, You should be of Opinion that there will be a Necessity to strike a further Sum in the Bills of Credit to defray the Charges of raising Supplies for his Majestie's Service in this Time of imminent Danger, and will create a proper Fund or Funds for sinking the same in a few Years, I will concur with You in

passing a Law for that Purpose, thinking myself sufficiently warranted so to do in cases of real Emergency.

"And now, Gentlemen, I hope you will, upon due Consideration, be of Opinion with me that the chief End of your Bill will be hereby in a great measure answered, as the Sum to be struck and circulated upon this occasion will be such an Addition to your present Currency as probably may be thought sufficient for some time.

"I have nothing farther to say at present but to thank you for your Acknowledgments of my Care in Indian Affairs, and to press you to hasten your Resolutions upon the Matters recommended in my last Message, that I may as soon as possible be able to acquaint the Governor of Virginia what assistance he may expect from this Province.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"February 19th, 1754."

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 20th of February, 1754.

The Governor still indisposed.

PRESENT:

John Penn,	Thomas Lawrence,	Esquires.
Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor ordered the Secretary to inform the Council that Andrew Montour and John Patten were come from the River Ohio; that he had acquainted the Assembly of it by a verbal Message, and told the House he would lay their Dispatches before the Council this afternoon, and before them to-morrow; that the Transactions with the Indians were contained in a Journal sent by Mr. Croghan, and in a Diary taken by Mr. Patten, which he desired might be read and sent to the House.

His Honour further desired that they would examine Mr. Montour and Mr. Patten very strictly concerning the Distance of the Mouth of Mohongialo, Log's Town, Shannoppin, Weningo, and the other Parts of Ohio that were actually seized or going to be seized by the French, giving it as his Opinion that as the Courses and Distances were set down by Mr. Patten in his Diary, in which Mr. Montour had given him his Assistance, he should be desired to make a Map of his Journey, setting them down truly and reducing them to a strait Line.

Accordingly Mr. Croghan's Journal and Mr. Patten's Diary

this Occasion, will be such an Addition to your present Currency, as probably may be thought ..... sufficient for some time.

I have nothing farther to say at present but to thank You for your Acknowledgments of my Care in Indian Affairs, and to press You to hasten your Resolutions upon the Matters recomended in my last Message, that I may as soon as possible be able to acquaint the Governor of Virginia what Assistance he may expect from this Province.

James Hamilton.

February 19th 1754.

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Present

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His Honour further desired, that they would examine Mr Montour and Mr Patten very strictly concerning the Distance of the Mouth of Mohongiala, Logs Town, Shannopyn, Venango, and the other Parts of Ohio that were actually seized or going to be seized by the French; giving it as his Opinion, that as the Courses and Distances were set down by Mr Patten in his Diary, in which Mr Montour had given him his Assistance, he should be desired to make a Map of his Journey, setting them down truly and reducing them to a strait Line.

Accordingly Mr Croghan's Journal and Mr Patten's Diary were read by the Secretary, and the former ordered to be entered in the Minutes of Council; but as Mr Patten in his Diary had given pretty much the same Account as Mr Croghan of the publick Business done with the Indians, they did not think it necessary to be transcribed: and agreed with the Governor that a Map should be carefully made by Mr Patten of the Courses and Distances from the Susquehannah to the Ohio, and reduced to a strait Line; and that all possible Information should be ..... obtained of this Matter. Mr Peters acquainted them, that a Temporary Line was run by Commissioners of Pennsylvania and Maryland one hundred and forty four Miles West from this City; that as soon as Mr Patten should finish his Map, he could shew them where a Meridian would strike the Path he went, and from thence the Distance to the Ohio might be easily calculated so as to admit of very little Doubt.

He further informed them, that Mr Weiser had set down the Distances from the Susquehannah to Logs Town in his Journal of the Year 1748; and Mr Montour and other Indian Traders had likewise been frequently examined by the Governor, and had given an Account of the Distances of that River from Susquehannah according to the Roads they went. all which might be compared in order to find out the true Distance.

George Croghans Journal. 1754.

January 12. 1754.

I arrived at Turtle Creek about eight miles from the Forks of Mohongiala where I was informed by

by John Frazier an Indian Trader, that Mr Washington, who was sent by the Governor of Virginia to the French Camp was returned: Mr Washington told Mr Frazier, that he had been very well used by the French General, that after he delivered his Message, the General told him his orders were to take all the English he found on the Ohio, which Orders he was determined to obey; and further told him, that the English had no business to trade on the Ohio, for that all the Lands of Ohio belonged to his Master the King of France, all to the Alegainay Mountain. Mr Washington told Mr Frazier, the Fort where he was is very strong, and that they had Abundance of Provisions; but they would not let him see their Magazine, there are about one hundred Soldiers and fifty Workmen at that Fort, and as many more at the Upper Fort, and about fifty Men at Weningo with Jean Caut. the Rest of their Army went home last Fall, but is to return as soon as possible this Spring. when they return, they are to come down to Logs Town, in order to build a Fort somewhere thereabouts. This is all I had of Mr Washington's Journey worth relating to your Honour.

On the thirteenth I arrived at Shanoppin's Town, where Mr Montour and Mr Patten overtook me.

On the fourteenth we set off to Logs Town, where we found the Indians all drunk; the ..... first Salutation we got was from one of the Shawonese who told Mr Montour and myself we were Prisoners, before we had time to tell them that their Men that were in Prison at Carolina were released, and that we had two of them in our Company. the Shawonese have been very ... uneasy about those Men that were in Prison, and had not those Men been released, it might have been of very ill consequence at this time; but as soon as they found their Men were released, they seemed all overjoyed, and I believe will prove true to their Alliance.

On the fifteenth Five Canoes of French came down to Logs Town in Company with the ..... Half King and some more of the Six Nations, in Number, an Ensign, a Serjeant and Fifteen Soldiers.

On the sixteenth in the morning, Mr Patten took a Walk to where the French had pitched their Tents, and on his returning back by the Officers Tent, he ordered Mr Patten to be brought in to him, on which Word came to the Town that Mr Patten was taken Prisoner, Mr Montour and myself immediately went to where the French was encamped, where we found the French Officer and the Half King in a high Dispute. the Officer told Mr. Montour and me that he meant no hurt to Mr Patten, but wondered he should pass backward and forward without ..... calling in. The Indians were all drunk, and seemed very uneasy at the French for stopping Mr. Patten; on which the Officer ordered his Men on board their Canoes, and set off to a small Town of the Six Nations about two miles below the Logs Town, where he intends to stay till the Rest of their Army come down. as to any particulars that passed between the Officer and Mr Patten, I refer your Honour to Mr Patten.

By a Chickisaw Man, who has lived amongst the Shawonese since he was a Lad, and is just returned from the Chickisaw Country where he has been making a Visit to his Friends, we hear that there is a large Body of French at the Falls of Ohio, not less he says than a thousand Men; that they have abundance of Provisions and Powder and Lead with them, and that they are coming up the River to meet the Army from Canada coming down. he says a Canoe with Ten French Men in her came up to the Lower Shawonese Town with him, but on some of the English Traders threatning to take them, they set back that night without telling their Business.

By a Message sent here from Fort De Troit by the Owendats to the Six Nations, Delawares and Shawonese, we hear that the Ottoways are gathering together on this Side Lake Erie ..... several hundreds of them in order to cut off the Shawonese at the Lower Shawonese Town. the French and Ottoways offered the Hatchet to the Owendats, but they refused to assist them.

We hear from Scarrooyady, that the Twightwees that went last Spring to Canada to counsel with the French were returned last Fall; that they had taken hold of the French Hatchet, and were entirely gone back to their old Towns amongst the French.

From the sixteenth to the twenty sixth we could do nothing, the Indians being constantly drunk.

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On the twenty sixth the French called the Indians to Council, and made them a Present of Goods_ on the Indians Return, the Half King told Mr Montour and me, he would take an Opportunity to repeat over to us what the French said to them.

On the twenty seventh We called the Indians to Council, and cloathed the Two Shawonese ..... according to the Indian Custom, and delivered them up in Council with your Honour's Speeches sent by Mr Patten, which Mr Montour adapted to Indian Forms as much as was in his Power or mine.

On the twenty eighth We called the Indians to Council again, and delivered them a large Belt of Black and White Wampum in your Honours and the Governor of Virginia's Name; by which we desired they might open their Minds to your Honour, and speak from their Hearts and not from their Lips; and that they might now inform your Honour by Mr Andrew Montour, whom You had chosen to transact Business between You and your Brethren at Ohio, whether that Speech which they sent your Honour by Lewis Montour was agreed on in Council or not; and assured them they might freely open their Minds to their Brethren your Honour and the Governor of Virginia, as the only Friends and Brethren they had to depend on.

Gave the Belt.

After delivering the Belt, Mr Montour gave them the Goods left in my Care by your Honours Commissioners at Carlisle, and at the same time made a Speech to them, to let them know that those Goods were for the Use of their Warriors and Defence of their Country.

As soon as the Goods were delivered, the Half King made a Speech to the Shawonese and Delawares, and told them, as their Brother Onas had sent them a large Supply of Necessaries for the Defence of their Country, that he would put it in their Care till all their Warriors would have Occasion to call for it, as their Brethren the English had not yet got a strong House to keep such Things safe in.

The Thirty First. A Speech delivered by the Half King in Answer to your Honours Speeches on delivering the Shawonese.

Brother Onas.

We return You our hearty Thanks for the Trouble You have taken in sending for our poor Relations the Shawonese, and with these four Strings of Wampum we clear your Eyes and Hearts, that You may see your Brothers the Shawonese clear as You used to do, and not think that any small Disturbance shall obstruct the Friendship so long subsisting between you and us your Brethren the Six Nations, Delawares and Shawonese_ We will make all Nations that are in Alliance with us acquainted with the Care You have had of our People at such a great distance from both You and us.

Gave four Strings of Wampum.

A Speech delivered by the Half King.

Brethren the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia; You desire us to open our Minds to You, and to speak from our Hearts, which we assure You Brethren we do; You desire We may inform You, whether that Speech sent by Lewis Montour was agreed on in Council or not, which We now assure You it was in part; but that Part of giving the Lands to pay the Traders Debts, We know nothing of, it must have been added by the Traders that wrote the Letter; but we earnestly requested by that Belt, and likewise we now request, that our Brother the Governor of Virginia may build a strong House at the Forks of Mohongialo, and send some of our young Brethren their Warriors to live in it; and We expect our Brother of Pennsylvania will build another House somewhere on the River, where he shall think proper, where whatever Assistance he will think proper to send us may be kept safe for us, as our Enemies are just at hand, and We do not know what Day they may come upon us_ We now acquaint our Brethren, that We have our Hatchet in our Hands to strike the Enemy, as soon as our Brethren come to our Assistance.

Gave a Belt and Eight Strings of Wampum.

Tonelaguesona
Shingass
Delaware George_G

Newcomer
Cosseentannea

The Half King
Scarrooyady_S.

Pennsylvania. 1754.

After the Chiefs had signed the last Speech, the Half King repeated over the French Council which was as follows.

"Children, I am come here to tell You, that your Father is coming to visit You, and to take "You under his Care, and I desire You may not listen to any ill News You hear, for I assure "You he will not hurt You - 'Tis true he has something to say to your Brethren the English, but "do You sit still, and do not mind what your Father does to your Brothers; for he will not suffer "the English to live or tread on this River Ohio, on which he made them a Present of Goods."

February the first, By a Cousin of Mr. Montours that came to Logstown in company with a Frenchman from Venengo by Land, we hear that the French expect Four Hundred Men every Day to the Fort above Venengo, and as soon as they come, they are to come down the River to Logstown, to take Posession from the English till the Rest of the Army comes in the Spring.

The Frenchman that came here in company with Mr Montours Cousin is Keeper of the King's Stores, and I believe the chief of his Business is to take a View of the Country, and to see what Number of English there is here, and to know how the Indians are affected to the French.

February the second, Just as we were leaving the Logs Town the Indians made the following Speech.

Brethren the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia, we have opened our Hearts to You, and let You know our Minds; we now by these two Strings of black Wampum desire You may directly send to our Assistance, that You and We may secure the Lands of Ohio; for there is nobody but You our Brethren and Ourselves have any Right to the Land: but if you do not send immediately, we shall surely be cut off by our Enemy the French.

Gave two Strings of black Wampum.

February the second. A Speech made us by Shingass King of the Delawares.

Brother Onas.

I am glad to hear all our People here are of one mind; it is true I live here on the River Side, which is the French Road, and I assure You by these Three Strings of Wampum, that I will neither go down nor up, but I will move nearer to my Brethren the English, where I can keep our Women and Children safe from the Enemy.

Gave Three Strings of Wampum

The above is a true account of our Proceedings taken down by

Your Honours

most obedient humble Servant

George Croghan.

3d. February 1754.

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire.

The Secretary informed the Council by Order of the Governor that some Disturbance was likely to arise in the County of Northampton, by reason of a Claim of Right pretended to be made of all Lands within the forty first and forty second Degree of Latitude, as far as to the South Sea by the People of Connecticut; notwithstanding, that Penn's Grant included this Degree so far as the Limits of their Province; and that some of their People had been ..... tampering with the Inhabitants of that County, and gave out, that they would come and settle some of the Lands of Wyominh on Susquehannah in the Spring, and sell others to such as should be disposed to buy of them: all which was set forth in a Letter from Mr Parsons, which was read and ordered to be entered, and the Consideration of this Matter referred till the next Council.

May it please the Governor.

Having heard that some Persons under Pretence of an Authority from the ..... Government of Connecticut; had passed by Daniel Broadhead Esquire's in their Way to Wyomink upon Sasquehannah River, in order to view the Lands in these Parts; giving out that those Lands were included within the Boundaries of the Royal Charter to the Colony of Connecticut, and that they intended with a very considerable Number of Families to go and settle there next Spring, and at the same time inviting the present Settlers within this Province, in their Way, to accept of Titles under the Government of Connecticut for Part of those Lands; I went up to Mr Broadhead's to speak with him, and to be more fully informed of the Matter. Mr Broadhead told me that my Information was but too true, and that some of his near Neighbours had accompanied three Gentlemen like Men to Wyominky, who produced a Writing under a large Seal, which they said was the publick Seal of the Government of Connecticut, empowering them to treat and agree with such Persons as were disposed to take any of those Lands of them; and since waiting upon Mr Broadhead, the same has been confirmed to me by several other Persons of Reputation in these Parts. As I am very apprehensive this affair may not only be very injurious to the Interest of the Honourable the Proprietaries, but that it may also be the Means of occasioning very great Disorders and Disturbances in the back Parts of the Province; I thought I should be wanting in my Duty if I did not give your Honour this Information. I am

Your Honours

most obedient

humble Servant

Philadelphia
8th February 1754.

Wm Parsons

To the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Friday 1st March 1754.

The Governor still indisposed

Present

John Penn, Thomas Lawrence, Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor on the Twenty Second of February received a Message by Two Members from the House, "That having gone through and maturely considered the several Papers relating "to Indian affairs, which he had laid before them at this Sitting; and also examined his "Messengers concerning what they knew in relation to the Disposition of the French and Indians "on Ohioe. desired to know if he had any thing more to communicate to the House that would "give them further Light therein, or be of Use to them in their Deliberations thereupon". To which the Governor was pleased to say, He had not withheld any Thing from the House relating to the Indian affairs now under their Consideration.

The Governor not thinking it by any means proper to pass by the Assemblys rude and unprecedented Treatment of him in their Minutes of last September, informed the Council that he had prepared an answer thereto, which he submitted to their Consideration; and if it was approved he proposed to send it this morning to the House with a verbal Message by the Secretary.

The

passing a Law for that Purpose, thinking myself sufficiently warranted so to do in cases of real Emergency.

"And now, Gentlemen, I hope you will, upon due Consideration, be of Opinion with me that the chief End of your Bill will be hereby in a great measure answered, as the Sum to be struck and circulated upon this occasion will be such an Addition to your present Currency as probably may be thought sufficient for some time.

"I have nothing farther to say at present but to thank you for your Acknowledgments of my Care in Indian Affairs, and to press you to hasten your Resolutions upon the Matters recommended in my last Message, that I may as soon as possible be able to acquaint the Governor of Virginia what assistance he may expect from this Province.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"February 19th, 1754."

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 20th of February, 1754.

The Governor still indisposed.

PRESENT:

John Penn,	Thomas Lawrence,	Esquires.
Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor ordered the Secretary to inform the Council that Andrew Montour and John Patten were come from the River Ohio; that he had acquainted the Assembly of it by a verbal Message, and told the House he would lay their Dispatches before the Council this afternoon, and before them to-morrow; that the Transactions with the Indians were contained in a Journal sent by Mr. Croghan, and in a Diary taken by Mr. Patten, which he desired might be read and sent to the House.

His Honour further desired that they would examine Mr. Montour and Mr. Patten very strictly concerning the Distance of the Mouth of Mohongialo, Log's Town, Shannoppin, Weningo, and the other Parts of Ohio that were actually seized or going to be seized by the French, giving it as his Opinion that as the Courses and Distances were set down by Mr. Patten in his Diary, in which Mr. Montour had given him his Assistance, he should be desired to make a Map of his Journey, setting them down truly and reducing them to a strait Line.

Accordingly Mr. Croghan's Journal and Mr. Patten's Diary

were read by the Secretary, and the former ordered to be enter'd in the Minutes of Council, but as Mr. Patten in his Diary had given pretty much the same Account as Mr. Croghan of the publick Business done with the Indians, they did not think it necessary to be transcribed, and agreed with the Governor that a Map should be carefully made by Mr. Patten of the Courses and Distances from the Sasquehannah to the Ohio, and reduce to a strait Line; and that all possible Information should be obtained of this Matter, Mr. Peters acquainted them that a Temporary Line was run by Commissioners of Pennsylvania and Maryland, one hundred and forty-four Miles West from this City; that as soon as Mr. Patten should finish his Map he could shew them where a Meridian would strike the Path he went, and from thence the Distance to the Ohio might be easily calculated so as to admit of very little Doubt.

He further informed them that Mr. Weiser had set down the Distances from the Sasquehannah to Log's Town in his Journal of the Year 1748, and Mr. Montour and other Indian Traders had likewise been frequently examined by the Governor and had given an Account of the Distances of that River from Sasquehannah according to the Roads they went. All which might be compared in order to find out the true Distance.

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George Croghan's Journal, 1754.

"January 12th, 1754.

"I arrived at Turtle Creek about eight miles from the Forks of Mohongialo, where I was informed by John Frazier, an Indian Trader, that Mr. Washington, who was sent by the Governor of Virginia to the French Camp, was returned. Mr. Washington told Mr. Frazier that he had been very well used by the French General; that after he delivered his Message the General told him his Orders were to take all the English he found on the Ohio, which Orders he was determined to obey, and further told him that the English had no business to trade on the Ohio, for that all the Lands of Ohio belonged to his Master the King of France, all to Alegainay Mountain. Mr. Washington told Mr. Frazier the Fort where he was is very strong, and that they had Abundance of Provisions, but they would not let him see their Magazine; there are about one hundred Soldiers and fifty Workmen at that Fort, and as many more at the Upper Fort, and about fifty Men at Weningo with Jean Cœur; the Rest of their Army went home last Fall, but is to return as soon as possible this Spring; when they return they are to come down to Log's Town in order to build a Fort somewhere thereabouts. This is all I had of Mr. Washington's Journey worth relating to your Honour.

"On the thirteenth I arrived at Shanoppin's Town, where Mr. Montour and Mr. Patten overtook me.

"On the fourteenth we set off to Log's Town, where we found the Indians all drunk; the first Salutation we got was from one of the Shawonese who told Mr. Montour and myself we were Prisoners, before we had time to tell them that their Men that were in Prison at Carolina were released, and that we had two of them in our Company. The Shawonese have been very uneasy about those Men that were in Prison, and had not those Men been released it might have been of very ill consequence at this time; but as soon as they found their Men were released they seem'd all overjoyed, and I believe will prove true to their Alliance.

"On the fifteenth Five Canoes of French came down to Log's Town in Company with the Half King and some more of the Six Nations, in Number an Ensign, a Serjeant, and Fifteen Soldiers.

"On the sixteenth in the morning Mr. Patten took a Walk to where the French had pitched their Tents, and on his returning back by the Officer's Tent he ordered Mr. Patten to be brought in to him, on which Word came to the Town that Mr. Patten was taken Prisoner. Mr. Montour and myself immediately went to where the French was encamped, where we found the French Officer and the Half King in a high Dispute. The Officer told Mr. Montour and Me that he meant no hurt to Mr. Patton, but wondered he should pass backward and forward without calling in. The Indians were all drunk, and seemed very uneasy at the French for stopping Mr. Patten, on which the Officer ordered his Men on board their Canoes and set off to a small Town of the Six Nations about two Miles below the Log's Town, where he intends to stay till the Rest of their Army come down. As to any particulars that pass'd between the Officer and Mr. Patten I refer your Honour to Mr. Patten.

"By a Chickisaw Man who has lived amongst the Shawonese since he was a Lad, and is just returned from the Chickisaw Country where he has been making a Visit to his Friends, we hear that there is a large Body of French at the Falls of Ohio, not less he says than a thousand Men; that they have abundance of Provisions and Powder and Lead with them, and that they are coming up the River to meet the Army from Canada coming down. He says a Canoe with Ten French Men in her came up to the Lower Shawonese Town with him, but on some of the English Traders' threatning to take them they set back that night without telling their Business.

"By a Message sent here from Fort De Troit by the Owendats to the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese, we hear that the Ottoways are gathering together on this Side Lake Erie, several hundreds of them, in order to cutt off the Shawonese at the Lower Shawonese Town. The French and Ottoways offered the Hatchet to the Owendats but they refused to assist them.

"We hear from Scarrooyady that the Twightwees that went last Spring to Canada to counsel with the French were returned last

Fall; that they had taken hold of the French Hatchet and were entirely gone back to their old Towns amongst the French.

"From the sixteenth to the twenty-sixth we could do nothing, the Indians being constantly drunk.

"On the twenty sixth the French called the Indians to Council and made them a Present of Goods. On the Indians Return the Half King told Mr. Montour and me he would take an Opportunity to repeat over to Us what the French said to them.

"On the twenty-seventh We called the Indians to Council, and cloathed the Two Shawonese according the Indian Custom, and delivered them up in Council with your Honour's Speeches sent by Mr. Patten, which Mr. Montour adapted to Indian Forms as much as was in his Power or mine.

"On the twenty-eighth We called the Indians to Council again, and delivered them a large Belt of Black and White Wampum in Your Honour's and the Governor of Virginia's Name, by which we desired they might open their Minds to your Honour, and speak from their Hearts and not from their Lips; and that they might now inform your Honour by Mr. Andrew Montour, whom You had chosen to transact Business between You and your Brethren at Ohio, whether that Speech which they sent your Honour by Lewis Montour was agreed on in Council or not, and assured them they might freely open their Minds to their Brethren your Honour and the Governor of Virginia, as the only Friends and Brethren they had to depend on.

"Gave the Belt.

"After delivering the Belt Mr. Montour gave them the Goods left in my Care by your Honour's Commissioners at Carlisle, and at the same time made a Speech to them to let them know that those Goods were for the Use of their Warriors and Defence of their Country.

"As soon as the Goods were delivered the Half King made a Speech to the Shawonese and Delawares, and told them as their Brother Onas had sent them a large Supply of Necessaries for the Defence of their Country, that he would put it in their Care till all their Warriors would have Occasion to call for it, as their Brethren the English had not yet got a strong House to keep such Things safe in.

"The Thirty-First A Speech delivered by the Half King in Answer to your Honour's Speeches on delivering the Shawonese:

"'Brother Onas—

"'We return You our hearty Thanks for the Trouble You have taken in sending for our poor Relations the Shawonese, and with these four Strings of Wampum we clear your Eyes and Hearts, that You may see your Brothers the Shawonese clear as You used to do,

and not think that any small Disturbance shall obstruct the Friendship so long subsisting between You and us your Brethren, the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese. We will make all Nations that are in Alliance with Us acquainted with the Care You have had of our People at such a great distance from both You and Us.'

"Gave Four Strings of Wampum.

"*A Speech delivered by the Half King.*

"'Brethren the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia:' You desire Us to open our Minds to You and to speak from our Hearts, which we assure You, Brethren, we do. You desire We may inform You whether that Speech sent by Lewis Montour was agreed on in Council or not, which We now assure You it was in part; but that Part of giving the Lands to pay the Traders' Debts We know nothing of it; it must have been added by the Traders that wrote the Letter; but we earnestly requested by that Belt, and likewise we now request that our Brother the Governor of Virginia may build a Strong House at the Forks of the Mohongialo, and send some of our young Brethren, their Warriors, to live on it; and we expect our Brother of Pennsylvania will build another House somewhere on the River where he shall think proper, where whatever assistance he will think proper to send us may be kept safe for us, as our Enemies are just at hand, and we do not know what Day they may come upon Us. We now acquaint our Brethren that we have our Hatchet in our Hands to strike the Enemy as soon as our Brethren come to our assitance.'

"Gave a Belt and Eight Strings of Wampum.

"THE HALF KING,
"SCARRROOYADY,
"NEWCOMER,
"COSWENTANNEA,
"TONELAGUESONA,
"SHINGASS,
"DELAWARE GEORGE.

"After the Chiefs had signed the last Speech, the Half King repeated over the French Council, which was as follows:

"'Children: I am come here to tell you that your Father is coming here to visit you and to take You under his care, and I desire You may not listen to any ill News You hear, for I assure you he will not hurt You; 'Tis true he has something to say to your Brethren the English, but do you sit still and do not mind what your Father does to your Brothers, for he will not suffer the English to live or tread on this River Ohio; on which he made them a Present of Goods.'

"February the First.—By a Cousin of Mr. Montour's that came to Log's town in company with a Frenchman from Weningo by Land,

we hear that the French expect Four Hundred Men every Day to the Fort above Weningo, and as soon as they come they are to come down the River to Log's town to take Possession from the English till the rest of the Army comes in the Spring.

"The Frenchman that came here in company with Mr. Montour's Cousin, is Keeper of the King's Stores, and I believe the chief of his Business is to take a view of the Country and to see what Number of English there is here, and to know how the Indians are affected to the French.

"February the Second.—Just as we were leaving the Log's Town, the Indians made the following Speech:

"'Brethren the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia: we have opened our Hearts to You and let you know our Minds; we now, by these two Strings of black Wampum, desire You may directly send to our Assistance that You and We may secure the Lands of Ohio, for there is nobody but You our Brethren and ourselves have any Right to the Lands;' but if you do not send immediately we shall surely be cut of by our Enemy the French.'

"Gave two Strings of black Wampum.

"February the Second.—A Speech made by Shingass, King of the Delawares.

"'Brother Onas:

"'I am glad to hear all our People here are of one mind; it is true I live here on the River Side, which is the French Road, and I assure you by these three Strings of Wampum that I will neither go down or up, but I will move nearer to my Brethren the English, where I can keep our Women and Children safe from the Enemy.'

"Gave Three Strings of Wampum.

"The above is a true account of our Proceedings, taken down by

"Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant.

"GEORGE CROGHAN.

"3d February, 1754.

"The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON Esquire."

The Secretary informed the Council, by Order of the Governor, that some Disturbance was likely to arise in the County of Northampton by reason of a Claim of Right pretended to be made of all Lands within the forty-first and forty-second Degree of Latitude as far as to the South Sea, by the People of Connecticut, notwithstanding Mr. Penn's Grant included this Degree as far as the Limits of their Province, and that some of their People had been tampering with the Inhabitants of that County, and gave out that they would come and settle some of the Lands of Wyomink on Sasquehannah in the Spring, and sell others to such as should be disposed to buy of

them: all which was set forth in a Letter from Mr. Parsons, which was read and ordered to be entered, and the Consideration of this Matter referred till the next Council.

"May it please the Governor:

"Having heard that some Persons under Pretence of an Authority from the Government of Connecticut had passed by Daniel Broadhead, Esquire's, in their Way to Wyomink upon Sasquehanhana River, in order to view the Lands in those Parts, giving out that those Lands were included within the Boundaries of the Royal Charter to the Colony of Connecticut, and that they intended with a very considerable Number of Families to go and settle there next Spring, and at the same time inviting the present Setlers within this Province in their Way to accept of Titles under the Government of Connecticut for Part of those Lands, I went up to Mr. Broadhead's to speak with him and to be more fully informed of the Matter. Mr. Broadhead told me that my Information was but too true, and that some of his near Neighbours had accompanied three Gentlemen-like Men to Wyomink who produced a Writing under a large Seal, which they said was the public Seal of the Government of Connecticut, empowering them to treat and agree with such Persons as were disposed to take any of these Lands of them; and since waiting upon Mr. Broadhead the same has been confirmed to me by several other Persons of Reputation in these Parts. As I am very apprehensive this Affair may not only be very injurious to the Interest of the Honourable the Proprietaries, but that it may also be the Means of occasioning very great Disorders and Disturbances in the back Parts of the Province, I thought I should be wanting in my Duty if I did not give your Honour this Information.

"I am Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"WM. PARSONS.

"PHILADELPHIA, 8th February, 1754.

"To the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday, 1st March, 1754.

The Governor still indisposed.

PRESENT:

John Penn,	Thomas Lawrence,	Esquires.
Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor on the Twenty-Second of February received a Message by Two Members from the House "That having gone through and naturally considered the several Papers relating to Indian

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 2d Day of March, 1754.

The Governor still Indisposed.

PRESENT:

John Penn,
Joseph Turner,
Richard Peters,
} Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Assembly having on the Twenty-Seventh of February sent the Governor a written Message in answer to his of the nineteenth of February, relating to the Paper Money Bill, he sent it to the Council with the Draught of a Reply which he proposed to make to it, and desired before they proceeded to consider them that they would carefully peruse Mr. Patten's Map of the Distance of the Ohio, together with the account given of the same by Mr. Weiser and the Traders on former examinations, and likewise that they would examine Mr. West, who accompanied Col. Fry and other Gentlemen to Log's Town to a Treaty held there by them as Commissioners on the Part of Virginia with the Ohio Indians in the Year 1752.

The Message was read in these words:

"May it please the Governor:

"The unusual Manner in which the Governor has been pleased to refuse his assent to a Bill of the greatest Importance to the Prosperity and Welfare of this Province, appears to us particularly unfortunate at this time, when an easy access to the Governor and free Conferences with each other would so naturally tend to cement the Several Branches of the Legislature by the Strong Ties of their mutual Interest, notwithstanding any supposed independent Rights on either Part. Yet as we apprehend it our Duty under these Difficulties, and in all circumstances, to contribute whatever lies in our Power towards preserving or restoring this Harmony, we have referred that Part of the Governor's Message to be considered independent of the Royal Commands and other pressing affairs recommended to us at this Time, in order that no seperate Interests of our own which can possibly be avoided may interfere with the common Good of these his Majestie's Colonies on the Continent of America.

"Under these Considerations We have deliberately considered the other Matters contained in the Governor's Messages and Letters to which they refer, in which we cannot but observe some Differences between the Royal Orders, signified by the Earl of Holdernesse's Letter as well as the Letter from the Lords of Trade of the eighteenth of September last, and the Light in which the Governor is pleased to represent them in his Message of the Fourteenth Instant, for which Reason we shall undoubtedly stand excused if We

recur to the Letters themselves for the Rule of our Conduct in this great Affair.

"The Earl of Holdernesse in his Letter of the twenty eighth of August last has very minutely and precisely directed the several Steps to be taken and the Cautions to be used by the Governors of the Colonies in regard to their own Defence, or when called upon by the neighbouring Provinces or any others of his Majestie's Colonies for their mutual assistance in Support of the general Interest of the British Dominions on the Continent, in which, as it is his Majestie's Determination not to be the Aggressor, they are most strictly commanded and enjoined not to make use of an armed Force, excepting within the undoubted Limits of his Dominions, and in that case under such Restrictions only as are particularly set forth in the Royal Order.

"As it would be highly presumptuous in us to pretend to judge of the undoubted Limits of his Majestie's Dominions on the Continent, so neither ought we to fix the Boundaries of this Province beyond which We apprehend our own Forces are strictly enjoined by no Means to act as Principals, especially as the Governor has not been pleased to furnish Us with any Materials for that Enquiry, were we so inclined or were we the proper Judges, nor has he made the necessary Requisition, or called upon us to resist any hostile Attempts made upon any Part of his Majestie's Dominions within this Government, but to grant such a Supply as might enable him to raise Forces to be ready to join those of Virginia early in March upon Patowmack. Under these Circumstances We hope the Governor will concur with Us, the most prudent Part will be to wait the Result of the Government of Virginia, as there is no Provision yet made there, so far as We know, for the raising any Forces on this Occasion, nor in Maryland their neighbouring Colony, or New Jersey, equally engaged in the general Interest of the British Dominions on this Continent, tho' the Governors have called upon their respective Assemblies for that Purpose in Pursuance of the Royal Command, signified to them in the circular Letter from the Earl of Holdernesse as above; and this Caution We presume is more especially becoming Us, as it is well known the Assemblies of this Province are generally composed of a Majority who are conscientiously principled against War, and represent a well-meaning, peaceable People, deeply sensible of the great Favours, Protection, and Privileges they enjoy under the present Royal Family, and therefore ready and willing to demonstrate their Duty and Loyalty by giving such Sums of Money to the King's Use, upon all suitable Occasions, as may consist with our Circumstances or can be reasonably expected from so young a Colony.

"By the Accounts now before Us we find we have contracted a Debt of about Fourteen Hundred Pounds for Presents to the

Indians and other Charges arising from the late Treaty at Carlisle, which We shall discharge chearfully, notwithstanding our Proprietaries refuse to contribute any Part of our Indian Expences, which have encreased upon Us exceedingly within these few Years; nevertheless We return our Acknowledgments to the Governor for his Care and prudent conduct on that Occasion, as well as to the Gentlemen who, under the Governor's Commission, held the Treaty at that critical Juncture to our Satisfaction, and we hope not only to our own but to the general Interest of these Colonies, by demonstrating to our Indian Allies the good Faith with which the Subjects of Great Britain fulfil their Treaties and the ready Assistance they may depend on under their Wants and Necessities.

"The Letter of the Lords of Trade having left both the Time and Place of holding a Treaty with the Six Nations to the Governor of New York, he has thought fit to appoint it to be held at Albany on the Thirteenth or Fourteenth of June next, as the Governor has been pleased to inform us. However inconvenient it may appear to Us to hold our Treaties with the Indians at Albany, yet as all his Majestie's Colonies whose Interest and Security are connected with or depend upon the Six Nations, are invited to join in this Interview, if the Governor should think it may be for the Interest or advantage of this Province to appoint Commissioners to be joined with those of the other Governments on this Occasion, we shall be willing to make the proper Provision for that Purpose, together with a small Present; but as We have been already at so considerable an Expence at our late Treaty, it cannot be expected nor do we apprehended it would answer any good Purpose to make it very large at this Time.

"We are now to join with the Governor in bewailing the miserable Situation of our Indian Trade carried on (some few excepted) by the vilest of our own Inhabitants and Convicts imported from Great Britain and Ireland, by which means the English Nation is unhappily represented among our Indian Allies in the most disagreeable Manner. These trade without Controul either beyond the Limits or at least beyond the Power of our Laws, debauching the Indians and themselves with spirituous Liquors, which they now make in a great measure the principal Article of their Trade in direct Violation of our Laws, supplied, as we are informed, by some of the Magistrates who hold a Commission under this Government and other Inhabitants of our back Counties. These Laws now in force if duly put in Execution we hope would in a great Measure redress the Grievances complained of; but that no Endeavours may be wanting on our Part we have appointed a Committee to consider if anything further in our Power can be done to remedy these Evils, and to bring in a Bill accordingly.

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"In Assembly, 27th February, 1754."

And then Mr. Patten and Mr. Montour were examined, who did declare that the Courses and Distances from Carlisle to Shanoppin, an Indian Town on the River Ohio near the Mouth of Mohongialo, are laid down in a Map wch they had presented to the Governor and now produced to the Council with as much Care and Accuracy as in their Power, and that they believed them to be as near the Truth as it could be known without actual Mensuration; and that the two following Tables taken from the Map contain a just Description of the Road as well by Computation as by the Compass:

The computed Distance of the Road by the Indian Traders from Carlisle to Shanoppin's Town.

	From Carlisle. Miles.
From Carlisle to Major Montour's - - - -	10
From Montour's to Jacob Pyatt's - - - -	25
From Pyatt's to George Croghan's at Aucquick Old Town	15
From Croghan's to the Three Springs - - - -	10
From the Three Springs to Sideling Hill - - -	7
From Sideling Hill to Contz's Harbour - - -	8
From Contz's Harbour to the top of Ray's Hill - -	1
From Ray's Hill to the 1 crossing of Juniata - -	10
From the 1 crossing of Juniata to Allaguapy's Gap -	6
From Allaguapy's Gap to Ray's Town - - -	5
From Ray's Town to the Shawonese Cabbin - - -	8
From Shawonese Cabbins to the Top of Allegheny Mountain	8
From Allegheny Mountain to Edmund's Swamp - -	8
From Edmund's Swamp to Cowamahony Creek - -	6
From Cowamahony to Kackanapaulins - - - -	5
From Kackanapaulins to Loyal Hannin - - - -	18
From Loyal Hannin to Shanoppin's Town - - -	50

The Courses of the Road from Carlisle to Shanoppin's Town by Compass.

N. 20, W. 8 Miles to Major Montour's.
W. S. W. 20 Miles to Jacob Pyatt's.
N. 20, W. 8 Miles to George Croghan's or Aucquick old Town.
N. 70, W. 7 Miles to the three Springs.
S. 70, W. 5 Miles to Aucquick Gap.
S. 70, W. 5½ Miles to Contz's Harbour.
S. 80, W. 9 Miles to Allaquapy's Gap.
West 3 Miles to Ray's Gap.
N. 45, W. the Course up the Gap.
N. 63, W. 5 Miles to the Shawonese Cabbin's.
N. 60, W. 5 M^s to the top of Allegheny Mount^n
N. 75, W. 4½ Miles to Edmund's Swamp.
N. 80, W. 4 Miles to Cowamahony Creek.
N. 10. W. 3½ Miles to Kackanapaulin's House.

N. 64, W. 12 Miles to Loyal Hannin Old Town.
N. 20. W. 10 Miles to the Forks of the Road.
West 10 Miles to ————————.
N. 80, W. 15 Miles to Shanoppin's Town.

Mr. West was likewise Examined, and did declare that he verily believed the Courses and distances as set down by Mr. Patten on the Map now produced, came as near to the Truth as was possible, without actual Mensuration. He further said that Col. Joshua Fry, one of the Virginia Commissioners who had the Reputation of an excellent Mathematician, with a Quadrant of eighteen Inches Radius, took an Observation of the Sun on the 16th of June, 1752, at a Place about a Mile North of Shanoppin's Town, and found the Sun's Meridian Altitude to be 72d. 54°.

Complement Suns Altitude - - - - -	17	6
June 16, Suns Declination - - - - -	23	1
Latitude - - - - -	40	29

Mr. Peters in order to give the Council a just Notion of the Distance of the Ohio, produced a Draught of the Temporary Line, and the Field Book of the late Surveyor General Mr. Eastburn, by which it appeared that the End of that Line is distant from Newcastle one hundred and Thirteen Miles, and from the Meridian of Philadelphia one hundred and forty-four Miles. Mr. Peters and Mr. West both agree that a Place called the three Springs is in the same Meridian with the End of the Temporary Line, which Place by Patten's Draught is distant from the Ohio eighty-six Miles on a strait Line by Compass, which added to one hundred and thirteen Miles make two hundred Miles, wanting one mile distant from the Circle of Newcastle, and added to one hundred and forty-four Miles, makes two hundred and thirty Miles distant from the Meridian of Philadelphia. Mr. Peters further observed that this Situation of the Ohio was perfectly agreeable to the late History and Maps of Canada published by Father Charlevoix, which were likewise examined by the Council and gave them entire Satisfaction. Then it was desired that the several Matters now set forth might be committed to writing and comunicated to the Assembly if the Governor pleased.

And then the following Message was agreed to:

"Gentlemen—

"In all Transactions with the Assemblies of this Province since my accession to the Government I have constantly endeavoured to confine myself within the undoubted and well-known Limits of the Powers entrusted to me by my Commission, without ever designedly attempting the least Infraction or Invasion of the Privileges of your House. That the Right of refusing my assent to any Bill offered me by the Assembly without assigning Reasons is incident to the

Station I have at present the Honour to fill I am persuaded you will not deny, inasmuch as the same has not only been frequently exercised by my Predecessors without any Complaint from the Assemblies on that account, but has also been expressly acknowledged by them to be so in the fullest and plainest Words.

"I hope never to be justly chargeable with using the Powers I am invested with in a Wanton or extravagant manner; and therefore as I do not conceive myself to be accountable to You for my Conduct on the present Occasion, I cannot but look on your having taken Notice of it in the way You have done to be a good deal more unusual and unprecedented than the Practice complain'd of.

"If I rightly know myself I may venture to say that no Man in my Station has ever been more desirous or taken more Pains than myself to establish and Preserve Peace and Harmony between the several Branches of the Legislature as well as throughout the whole Province; and I am still ready to contribute every Thing in my Power to so good a Purpose, consistent with my Honour and the Trust reposed in me; But if in order to restore and preserve this Harmony it be expected that I should make a Sacrifice of any of the Rights of Government, or part with my negative Voice with Respect to all Bills that may be laid before me, I shall look upon the Purchase, however desirable in itself, as made at too dear a Rate; being firmly of Opinion that such a change in the Constitution would be productive of more real Mischiefs and Inconveniences to the Province than are to be apprehended from any Temporary Disagreement between a Governor and Assembly. I would not here be understood to mention this as a Thing You have actually and in express Terms demanded of me, yet upon the most careful Review of all that has passed I am not able to discover any other Cause for the Interruption of that Harmony which for several Years subsisted between us, and for the late indecent Treatment I have received in a Paper published by your House, than my having refused to pass some favourite Bills upon your own Terms. If this then should have been the Case, what is it less in Effect than endeavouring to intimidate me from exercising my Judgment upon such Bills as come before me in my Legislative Capacity under Pain of incurring your sharpest Resentment, and consequently to deprive me of the Negative invested in me by the Constitution.

"But waving every Thing of an inferior Nature I proceed to that Part of your Message of the Twenty-Seventh of last Month wherein you are pleased to say You observe some Differences between the Royal Commands signified in Lord Holdernesse's Letter and the Light in which I represent them in my Message of the Fourteenth Instant. If there was any Defect in the Form of my calling upon You for such Supplies as might enable me to do what his Majesty has enjoined to be done in case of any hostile attempts upon any Part of his Majestie's Dominions, namely, to repel Force by Force,

I would willingly have hoped that your Duty to his Majesty would rather have induced you to supply any Omission of mine in that respect, especially as every Means of Information I was possessed of was laid before you, than that you would have attempted to elude the Force of a Demand made upon You by his Majestie's express Orders by such an Evasion as that of my not having done it in the very words of Lord Holdernesse's Letter. The words of my Message are so full, and tho' not a bare Repetition of his Lordship's, yet so very agreeable to them in their Sense and Meaning, that it is impossible You should have understood them in any other Light than as referring to Lord Holdernesse's Letter, especially as that Letter then lay upon your Table; However, as I find You have in some measure made that a pretence for not complying with my Demand made upon you by his Majestie's Order, I desire you will please now to be informed that I have undoubted Assurance that Part of his Majestie's Dominions within my Government is at this Time invaded by the Subjects of a Foreign Prince, who have erected Forts within the same; And further, that You will take Notice that I do now call upon You, pursuant to his Majestie's Orders, in the present Emergency to grant such Supplies as may enable me to draw forth the Armed Force of the Province in order to resist these hostile attempts, and to repel Force by Force.

"But you are pleased further to say, that You ought not to fix the Bounds of this Province, and that if You had been so inclined I had not furnished you with any Materials for the Enquiry. Pray, Gentlemen, did You ever ask me to furnish You with Materials for this particular Enquiry? If you did not, which I aver to be the case, Whence the Insinuation as if I had omitted to furnish You with all the Means of Information that were in my power? Was it possible for any Body to think You could have been so unconcerned about a Matter of such vast Consequence as an Invasion of his Majestie's Dominions (which was so strongly represented to You in my Message as being very near to Us) without making an Enquiry touching the Place and Situation where these Hostilities were said to be committed, or whether the same was or was not within the Limits of our own Province, especially as You might so easily have satisfied yourselves in that Point by the Papers laid before You and the Persons You had under Examination? By these it would have appeared to You that Log's Town, the Place where the French propose to have their Head Quarters, is not at the Distance of Five Degrees of Longitude from the River Delaware, and not to the Southward of Fifteen Statue Miles South of this City, and that the Course of the Ohio from that Place to Weningo, which the French have taken Possession of, and from whence they have driven away our Traders, is to the North-East, and consequently nearer to Us. It is likewise well known that a Person apprehended for committing a Murder at Shanoppin, which lies still South of Log's Town, was tried in the

Supream Court at Philadelphia, and the Evidence of the Place being within the Limits of this Province was so clear to the Court and Jury that he was convicted of Manslaughter and suffered his Punishment accordingly. Upon this Occasion I must needs tell You, Gentlemen, that if You really did make this Enquiry and received Satisfaction therein, your Suppression of the Truth is extremely disingenuous with regard to me, and that if you did not make it I can impute the Neglect to no other Cause than a Desire to have a plausible Excuse for not paying a proper Regard to his Majestie's Commands.

"I did not expect to have had it objected to me as a Failure in Duty that I did not make the Requisition mentioned in Lord Holdernesse's Letter by Gentlemen of your Persuasion. You must be all sensible that I have ever been extremely tender with regard to that Point, and have upon all Occasions avoided pressing You importunately upon Matters about which I knew You to have any Scruples, and therefore thought it a very lucky Circumstance that Governor Dinwiddie undertook the Task of making the Requisition, which otherwise I should have been obliged to do in Obedience to his Majestie's Commands, being sensible that the Hostilities complained of were committed within our own Province. Had I made the Requisition, would it not in Effect have been setting this Province in the Front of the Opposition? and had You afterwards refused to grant Supplies for repelling these Invaders, would it not have exposed Us to the Contempt and Derision as well of the French as our Indian Allies? But the Requisition is now made by one of his Majestie's Governors, and You have seen the Answer of the French Commander avowing these Hostilities.

"You have likewise seen in the late Treaty of Carlisle the answers of the French Commanders to the Requisitions made by the Indians of the Five Nations, whom the King of France in the Treaty of Utrecht, an Extract whereof was laid before You, acknowledges to be subject to the Dominion of Great Britain, wherein these French Officers declare they have the Orders of the King their Master to oppose them and every one else who should obstruct their making themselves Masters of that Country. And now these Indians, reduced as they are to the last Necessity, most earnestly beseech Us in Consequence of the Treaties made by them with this and others of his Majestie's Colonies to build Places of Refuge to which their Wives and Families may repair for Safety and Protection, and to send them our Warriors to assist them against these their Enemies, alledging they are too weak to make any considerable Resistance of themselves, and must submit to their superior Force and lose their Lands and Commerce with Us if We do not send them an armed Force.

"What then remains but that You immediately proceed to grant the necessary Supplies for resisting these hostile Attempts and

thereby set a good Example to the neighbouring Colonies, whose Conduct upon this Occasion ought not to be a Rule for Us who are the Province invaded and consequently in the most immediate Danger, which if You refuse to do how can You be said to fulfil our Treaties and 'give the Indians the ready Assistance they depend on under their Wants and Necessities?' Or how do You 'demonstrate your Duty and Loyalty to his Majesty by giving such Sums of Money for the King's Use upon all suitable Occasions as can be reasonably expected?'

"I for my Part have done my Duty, and any ill Consequences that may happen will not lie at my Door, and therefore, Gentlemen, I earnestly exhort You to do your's, and in every Respect to act up to the high Trust reposed in You as the Representatives of the People, that when an Account of your Transactions in Consequence of his Majestie's Orders shall be laid before our Sovereign, which must necessarily be done, both Parts of the Legislature may receive his Royal Approbation.

"That Part of your Message I cannot suffer to pass unobserved, wherein You are pleased to say that the Proprietaries refuse to contribute any Part of your Indian Expenses, which have encreased upon You exceedingly within a few Years. It is true they have refused to do so in the Manner You expected, and have given You their Reasons for the Refusal. But you cannot have forgot the Proposal I made to You in 1750 and 1751 by their Order, with respect to the building a strong Trading House near the Place now invaded and possessed by the French, which generous Offer had You then fit to have closed with all the Mischiefs We now apprehend might have been prevented at a small Expence to the Province, and that Country secured to the English, which hereafter to recover will probably be attended with the Loss of Many Lives as well as a heavy Charge to the Country.

"I join with You in Opinion that it is for the Interest and Advantage of the Province, and our indispensible Duty to send Commissioners to Albany in Concert with those of the other Governments on this Occasion; and I will take care to appoint suitable Persons for this purpose, and cheerfully concur with You in any proper Bill for the Regulation of the Indian Trade.

"I will enquire into the Conduct of the Magistrates of Cumberland County, which if found to be as You have set it forth, renders them highly unworthy of the Commission they bear.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"2d March, 1754."

Then the following Letter which the Governor had sent to the Governor of Virginia was read and ordered to be entered:

"Sir:

"The Assembly of this Province was sitting when your Messen-

ger arrived with your Favour of the twenty-ninth of January, informing me of Major Washington's Return and of the Answer of the Commander of the French Fort, tho' I had not then laid any thing before them owing to a tedious Indisposition, which falling upon my Nerves and Spirits had rendered me extreamely weak and incapable of Business; yet finding myself then a little better, I communicated to them the Earl of Holdernesse's Letter, with One from the Lords of Trade recommending a general Meeting at Albany this Summer, and likewise your several Favours, that by the Express in pacticular, and urged them in the strongest manner I could conceive to grant the necessary Supplies and to lose no time in doing it that I might be enabled to raise a Body of Men to join those of your Government at the Place and Time fixed upon in your Letter.

"Whilst the Assembly had these Matters under Deliberation, Mr. Montour and Mr. Patten arrived from Ohio with a Message from the Allegheny Indians, informing Us that they expected the French Army early in the Spring, and earnestly pressed the Two Governments of Virginia and Pennsylvania to assist them with their Warriors, and that some strong Houses might be forthwith erected, to which they might repair for Safety and Protection. And tho' Mr. Croghan in his Letter to me, and Mr. Montour and Mr. Patten, who were examined by the Assembly, expressly declare that the Indians are too weak to make any considerable Resistance, and if not assisted by their Brethren agreable to their solemn Engagements by Treaties, they must surrender to the French without striking a Stroke, especially as the Twightwees have taken up the Hatchet against Us; and alarming as all these Matters are, and fully and incontestably proved, yet the Assembly are not at all moved by them, but as I have good reason to believe will decline granting any Supplies.

"What Reasons they will give I know not, for I have not yet received their Answer to my Message; but as I am informed that nothing to Purpose is to be expected from them I do not think it proper to detain your Messenger any longer, uncertain as I am when they will give their Answer.

"It was unfortunate that at the Time the Assembly were in their Consultations your Speech to the Assembly of the nineteenth of December came to their Knowledge and was published in one of our News Papers, and seeing from thence their unfavourable Disposition, I am told the unwilling Members here laid hold of this as a handle for their doing nothing.

"For my part, under such a general Disinclination as appears in the several Assemblies I can see no other Method than for the Governors to assemble together in a general Meeting and draw up a clear and full Representation of the Situation of Indian Affairs and lay it before his Majesty and wait his Majestie's further Orders thereupon.

"If, nevertheless, contrary to my Expectations, the Assembly should do any thing to Purpose I will inform You of it immediately by Express.

"I refer you to Mr. Montour for further particulars, who sends you Mr. Croghan's Account of his Proceedings at Ohio, and a Letter on the Subject. I am, Sir,

"Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"Philadelphia, 26th February, 1754.

"The Honourable ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Esquire."

The Secretary, by Order of the Governor, communicated the following Letter to the Council, received by Express from Mr. Broadhead, one of the Justices of Northampton County, which was read in these Words:

"May it please your Honour:

"*Whereas*, There has been and is great Disquietude amongst the People of these Parts, occasioned by some New England Gentlemen, to such a Degree that they are all or the Majority of them going to quit and sell their Lands for Trifles; and to my certain Knowledge many of them have advanced Money on said Occasion, in order that they might secure Rights from the New England Proprietaries, which Right I suppose is intended to be on Sasquehannah at a Place called Wyomink.

"At the Time those Gentlemen were here, I was at a Loss how to act least I should do the thing not just, therefore desire your Honour will be pleased to favour me with your Advice, and depend I shall justly obey your Orders in case they come again.

"As I am conscious of acting with the utmost Honesty, both to the Honourable the Proprietaries in every respect and to every one in general, I am resolved so to continue.

"I am, with very great Respect,

"Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"DAN^{L} BRODHEAD.

"Dansbury, 21st February, 1754.

"The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire."

The Matter appeared to the Council to be of the utmost Importance, they thought every Step should be taken that could possibly prevent such a Scene of Confusion as would certainly arise if the People of Connecticut should put their Design in Execution, and therefore recommended it to the Governor to write to the Governor and Deputy Governor of Connecticut, informing them of these Proceedings, setting forth the Mischiefs likely to accrue from them,

and praying the Interposition of that Government to stop the Departure of their People on such a Dangerous Enterprize as this, least together with the Concern raised in every Breast by the Unhappiness of a foreign Invasion, the Colonies should have the additional Affliction of seeing a Civil War commence in the Bowels of Two of their most Populous Provinces; and further, thought it would be proper to send Conrad Weiser to the Six Nations and those of Wyomink to put them upon their Guard against those Proceedings.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 12th of March, 1754.

The Governor still indisposed.

PRESENT:

John Penn, Benjamin Shoemaker, Robert Strettell, Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

MEMORANDUM.

On the Fourth Instant a Message was brought by two Members to the Governor, desiring to know if he had any thing further to to lay before them in relation to the Western Bounds of this Province, and also if he had received any late Advices from the Governor of Virginia. And the Governor made Answer that he would send down to the House the several Evidences relating to the Western Bounds of Pennsylvania, which convinced him that the Hostilities mentioned in his Message were committed within this Province, and he made no doubt but they would be as convincing to the House, and further, that he had not received any Advices from Virginia since those he communicated to the House; and accordingly the Governor having received from Mr. Peters, Mr. West, Mr. Montour, and Mr. Patten, their several Informations in Writing, he laid them before the House, together with Mr. Patten's Map, the French Map of Monsieur Bellin bound in Charlevoix's History of Canada, a Certificate of Mr. Scull the Surveyor General, and Mr. Grew the Mathematical Professor in the Academy, of the Extent of Five Degrees of Longitude in Latitude Forty, amounting to two hundred and sixty-five Miles, and likewise a calculation founded upon and drawn up by those several Informations, whence it appeared that from Philadelphia to the River Ohio on a due West Course the Distance did not exceed.

His Honour further order'd the Secretary and the other Gentlemen to attend the House in order to explain to them the Draughts and Calculations, and to give them all the Light possible into this Affair, that they might obtain all manner of Satisfaction as to the

[illegible] by Jam[illegible]
[illegible] to their Liberty and Freedom. Report
[illegible] had duely weighed and considered of the
[illegible] and the papers therein referred to, and are
[illegible]inion That the only method for the Petitioners
[illegible]ief is by application to the Court of Chancery of this
[illegible] the papers on which the proof of their Freedom is found
[illegible] will not be admitted as Evidence in the Courts of common
[illegible] and that the Attorney and Advocate General should by order
[illegible] of this Board be directed to proceed therein accordingly. Upon
[illegible] Report on the Question being put was agreed to and approved
[illegible] and thereupon it is ordered by this Board with the advice
[illegible] of the Board that his Majesty's Attorney and Advocate
[illegible] do proceed on behalf of the Petitioners accordingly.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York the 2nd day of March 1754.

Present

His Honour James De Lancey Esq. Lieut. Gov. &c.

[illegible] Esqrs.

[illegible] Esqrs.

[illegible] Esqrs

At Murray's Ordinary

Yesterday of the 31st day of January last
referred a Letter of the 10th December from
another Letter of the 21st of that Month from
a Letter from the Sheriff of Orange County of the
another of the 22d of the same Month from the Just
Orange County, relative to the disputes between the Borde
this Government and New Jersey, and the Memorial of
Council of Proprietors of the Eastern division of New Jers
Governor Belcher mentioned in the said order presented
his Honour the Governor, the Committees Report on the mat
referred to them bearing date the first Instant whereupon
read, & on the question being put, it was resolved
and ordered to be entered in the Journals and is as follows.

May it please your Honour

In obedience to your Honour's
Order in Council of the thirty first day of January last, mentioni
the Letters from the Lord Governor Belcher of New Jers
relative to the disputes between the Borders
the two Governments, concerning the Lands and that he
should consult that Amicable & concerted measures
might be entered and taken upon by both Governments,
that the Borders might be ascertained, all in His Majesty's pleasure
should be known in this matter mentioning also a Memorial
had before the said Governor, by the Council of Proprietors of
New Jersey, respecting the said disputes, and also a Letter from
some Justices of the peace, and another Letter from the Sheriff
of Orange County relative to the disputes between the persons
living on the Borders of this Province and those of New Jersey,
and stating disturbances that actually happened on the
said Borders. Signifying also the opinion of your Honour and
of his Majesty's Council of this Province, that it is absolutely
necessary a Line of Partition should be fixed and agreed on by the
two governments, to prevent any future disputes or disorders
between the Inhabitants of both provinces, until the controversy
should be settled in a decent course, and requiring to us as a

Committee

[illegible] of the Palatines of [illegible]

the premises; and to Report our [illegible]

[illegible] Place should be fixed; and further to [illegible]

the said Disturbances and to Report to your Honour [illegible]

Opinion as to what we think proper to be done thereon.

We therefore having examined the claims and Patentees of Kinsvink and Wayagunda, and made diligent Inquiry concerning the late disturbances; Do humbly Report to your Honour.

That the Province of New Jersey was originally part of the Province of New York, and that the rights of that Province, depend upon Grants of his Majesty King Charles the Second to his Brother the Duke of York, afterwards King James the Second from the said Duke of York, to John Lord Berkley and Sir George Carteret under whom the persons called the Proprietors of East and West Jersey claim:

That we do not take upon ourselves to determine the Limits and Boundary of the Lands contained in aforesaid which appear to us to be a very controverted but most humbly Submit it to his Majesty, whether it is not proper this Town should petition his Majesty to appoint Commissioners to determine it by such method as to his Majesty shall seem most proper, but as a Line of Divisions appears to us absolutely necessary to be fixed & established with all possible speed in order to prevent any further breach of the publick peace by the Persons in the disputed Lands; it may have a influence upon your Honour.

That a Line was agreed to some time in the year 1686, between Thomas Dongan Esqr. then Governor of New York, and the Governor of New Jersey, to be run from a certain Tree on the West side of the West Branch of Philipses Town Creek, and to extend from thence to certain marked Trees on Delaware River, but we dont find that the said Line has ever been rebelligerent, nor has the exact place where those marked Trees then stood hitherto appeared to us with sufficient proof, nevertheless we find.

That after that Line had been agreed to, a Line was thought supposed to be a Division Line [illegible] by the Commissioners

from that place on a [illegible]
[illegible] and Little Minisink, thence cross[illegible]
Delaware River to the West Branch thence [illegible]
marked Trees stood; and in consequence thereof
the vacant Lands between Hudsons River, and the
Branch, were long before the year 1719. Granted by
Patents under the Great Seal of this Province, as [illegible]
within the same, and so bounded as by express Terms
necessary implication, to extend Southerly to such sup-
position Line aforesaid which are the Limits of Minisay
and Minisink.

And whereas it hath been found that the Inhabitants
residing within the Province of New York have at divers times
since the year 1719 made Settlements between the
Supposed Line, and have thereupon, with their Stocks
and Effects been exposed to the Incursions of the Indians;
for prevention whereof it is thought fit that [illegible]
general Assembly and of other Officers and Soldiers
[illegible] Civil and Military Offices and have the
protection of the Government whereby their possessions
remain the same, conformable to such supposed partition
Line that the Persons claiming a Settlement [illegible]
Line aforesaid, as the

1. Be it therefore enacted [illegible] Thirteenth year of King
William the Third and Queen Mary [illegible] made this Province and
Dependencies into Shires or Counties, in which the County
of Ulster is described to begin from the Limits and bounds of
East Jersey on the North Side of Hudsons River along
the said River to the Creek or Branch of the County
of Ulster and westward to the Head as far as Delaware River

Be it also enacted by the Authority aforesaid That for the
more equal Representation of the Freeholders in General Assembly
for the several Counties within this Province in
which it is declared that disputes had arisen between the
Counties of Orange and Ulster relating to Wagachemack and
Great and Little Minisinks, and therefore those places are by
this Act annexed to the County of Ulster, until the Bounds

between.

of those places, with

ties for Representatives in the County

By an act of the 2.th of Queen Anne 1704

ascertain the bounds and limits of the County of

whereby it was Enacted "That the County of Orange should

from the limits and confines of the province of New Jersey

West side of Hudsons River; along the said River, to the line

the County of Ulster and Eastward so far as Delaware River.

And as at the time of passing these acts there

was no line of Division between the two provinces that we have

of except that of 1664, It conclude this must have been the line

which the Legislature of this Province esteemed the limits of the

province.

It do not find that the Government of New

Jersey ever made any pretensions to the Jurisdiction of or that

the Proprietors of New Jersey did claim any right to any lands

beyond that said supposed line for upwards of fifty years

for the said pretensions seem to arise. But of late years

I find that the Proprietors of New Jersey, have made

many Encroachments and that upon it not to extend

its jurisdiction to the Northward of such supposed division

line, by virtue of some pretended right which appears

us to be very detrimental to the Interest of his Majesty, and

the good Peace of his subjects and does create, which have

and have been much disorder, and the frequent breach of the

publick peace, and more such misfortunes are likely to ensue,

unless effectual measures be speedily taken to prevent them.

Particularly the first

1. That Breaches of the Peace frequently committed

by persons inhabiting near the Borders of the said disputed

Lines which take their rise from the Uncertainty of the Interfering

of the Jurisdiction claimed and exercised by both governments.

2. That the Justices of the Peace of each Province have been

unqualified and Commissions to act, for executing the Authority

with they derived from their respective governments.

3. That the Borderers frequently dust each other from their

respective Possessions.

All.

[illegible] and as these
extension of possession and jurisdict
New Jersey, several Miles within this pro
Northward than the line agreed to as afore
1683; there is no reason to hope from anything
to us, that they will cease, till at least some Temp
or limit be set to the jurisdiction and authority of bo
governments.

(It is the long Memorial laid before You
Belcher by the Council of Proprietors, which seems to Aim
at Establishing the Line of 1719. We do not think it necessary
consider the numerous particulars thereof at present: in as
much as by the Copy of a Report from the Lords Commissio
of Trade to his Majesty dated the eighteenth day of July last
upon the Act of Assembly of New Jersey passed in 1719
which upon Your Petition was pleased to lay before the Council fo
the perusal of the Committee the several Memorials Remonstrances
and Answers between the Proprietors and Inhabitants
of New Jersey and the Answers were received on both sides,
presented to his Majesty in Council appears to them Governm
Instructions ought not to have issued for a Commission for
running that Line, without a previous reference
to a Report thereon and Instructions for that purpose: and
that a Commission upon a Report of such Authority, can be
considered with respect to the Crown as no
other Act than a mere nullity, and the Conclusion
of the said Report, their Lordships reason that in the Act
of Such a Court of Equity as the Crown is, and that
his Majesty's Interest might be materially affected by it,
in that the proceedings on which it was founded, were not
transmitted in the last instance to the proper Authority, but
carried on before the particular Agents of the Crown, they
could not think it advisable to lay the same before his
Majesty, nor to recommend his Royal Approbation.

Upon the whole we are humbly of Opinion

1. That as great Numbers of Inhabitants
of the Town of Perth Amboy and its Environs
have settled there since the Year 1719, so far Southward as the Line in 1686.

They

of their Sessions.

That your Honour be pleased to [illegible] the utmost willingness on the part of this [illegible] every thing in its power to give ease to the Borderers respective Provinces, consistent with the just rights of the and the Inhabitants of this Province: and to join with the Government in running a Temporary Line of Jurisdiction a Peace, conformable to the said line agreed on in the year 1686

That your Honour be pleased also to Signify to Governor Belcher, your Readiness to concert measures with him for this purpose

3. That your Honour be pleased on the part of this Government to declare the utmost readiness to join with that Government, in the speediest application to his Majesty, to Authorize and direct the Settlement of a true partition Line between both Provinces.

And Lastly if the Government of New Jersey shall agree to the running such line of peace, that your Honour do recommend to the General Assembly at their next meeting, to provide for their one half of the expence thereof. And if that Government will join with the in an application to his Majesty for the final Settlement of a Partition Line between the two Provinces. then also to provide for the one half of the expence that may attend the same.

All which is nevertheless humbly Submitted

By order of the Committee

Jos. Murray Chairman

New York 1st March 1731.

Mr. Alexander dissenting to the said Report, his dissent is entered accordingly, with leave to enter his Reasons for such dissent, laying the same before his Honour in Council at the next Meeting.

Mr. dissenting to the said Report.

The Council advised his Honour to send a copy of the said Report to Governor Belcher.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York the 13th day of March 1731.

Present The Honble James De Lancey Esqr Lieut Govr &c.

Mr. Alexander
Mr. Kennedy
Mr. Murray
Mr. Holland

Colo. Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith

Mr. Alexander

Sir

I have received Information that a Party of your Inhabitants did sometime ago pass thro the remote Parts of this Province in their Way to Wyomink upon Sasquehannah River, and gave out that they had made a Purchase of those Lands from the Mohock Indians and they had your Authority to come and settle them, being included within the Boundaries of the Connecticut Charter, and offered their Titles to any who were disposed to purchase; and this tho I then disregarded it as an idle Story is now confirmd by Persons of Character who have been in Connecticut, and assure me that a large Number of your Inhabitants tho without the Countenance or Knowledge of the Government were actually preparing to remove in the Spring and settle some of the Pennsylvania Lands on Sasquehannah, depending on their Indian Title, and not designing to pay any Regard to the Rights of our Proprietors, or apply to this Government for their Leave and Authority.

Tho I can scarce perswade myself that any considerable Number would engage in so rash and unjust a Proceeding, yet as it may be true tho highly improbable, I find myself obligd to communicate to your Honour these Informations, and entreat You would be pleased to do all in your Power to prevent these People from putting their Design in Execution, absurd as I am that if they make the attempt they will involve this Province in an endless Scene of Trouble and Confusion, and as they must expect Opposition, it may prove prejudicial to the Cause of the Colonies. If, as it is very probable, we shall be engaged in a War to repel the French who have actually invaded this Province, and are now erecting Forts and driving away our Traders within its Limits, a Number of Strangers shoud come amongst us and forcibly take Possession of our Lands, what can his Majesty or the other Colonies think, but that they are Enemies to their

Countr

Country, and design to hinder this Government from exerting its Force against the common Enemy by raising a Civil War within its Bowels.

I beseech your Honour further to consider that the Six Nations will be highly offended if these Lands on Sasquehannah be overrun with White People, for they are their Favourite Lands and reserved for their hunting, and many of them live there, and they have the Faith of this Government solemnly and repeatedly plighted that no White People shall settle there, and if notwithstanding these Publick Engagements they should now be settled, I will not answer for the Consequences, they may not only turn their Arms against the Setlers but withdraw themselves from our Alliance which might at this time prove the Ruin of our Affairs, and involve the Colonies in endless Bloodshed and Expence.

I cannot conceive how the Inhabitants of Connecticut, whose Laws as well as Ours prohibit and render invalid all private Contracts with the Natives, could go in so clandestine a manner to treat with the Mohocks about these Lands, surely they are worthy of much Censure on many Accounts, but at this time it is peculiarly unfortunate, as it may create a Difference between the Mohocks and the Rest of the Six Nations, between whom there is an Agreement that the Mohocks shall have nothing to do with the Lands in Pennsylvania, nor take any Part of the Presents received for them, because they have already had more than their Share for other Lands, and therefore the Mohocks never come here in Treaties for Land.

But why will your Inhabitants chuse such a disorderly and dangerous Way of obtaining the Possession of Lands when they may have a legal Settlement. There is a large Extent of Country in the Western Parts of this Province and That of Virginia vacant and some of the best Lands in North America. If therefore any considerable Number of Families want to remove and are minded to settle these Lands, I make no doubt but our Proprietaries will be glad to give them good Encouragement, and if they incline that I shall write in their Favour, I will chearfully do it at your Instance, and press them to return a speedy Answer, which may arrive here time enough for

the

the Hunters to go and view these Western Parts in the Winter, and prepare if they find them agreeable for their Removal as early as the Season in the Spring will permit.

Or if the Lands of Virginia shall be found more agreeable, I will recommend them to that Government who have lately made a Law for the Encouragement of New Settlers, and Both Governments will not fail to obtain for them the Friendship and kind Assistances of the Indians in those Parts in whichsoever of the Two they shall chuse to settle.

Should any of your Inhabitants be desirous to enquire of our Constitution and the Quality of the Lands in the uncultivated Parts of the Province, they will receive an impartial account of them from the Gentleman who is charged with this Letter, who is a Member of Assembly and the Proprietaries Surveyor over Susquehannah, and well acquainted with the Lands not yet appropriated, for these Reasons I have prevaild upon him to take this Journey, that he might answer any Questions and give Satisfaction in all Points necessary to be known in this matter, and I crave Leave to recommend him to your Honour as a Gentleman whose Relations may be received with the utmost Confidence in whatever he be desired to give an Account of.

I am perswaded your Honour will perceive the dangerous Consequences that must needs attend the Settlement of the Susquehannah Lands by your People in the manner they propose under the present Circumstances of Affairs, that it cannot fail to exasperate the Indians, raise a Civil War in the Province and distract the Government at a time when a the Attention I am Master of may be wanted to conduct the momentous Concerns of the Publick, execute his Majesties Commands and preserve the Colonies from falling a Prey to our Enemies. Suffer me then to repeat my Request that You would please to detain your People at home, and prevail with them to hearken to sober and moderate Counsels, which in the End will prove more to their Advantage. I am with sincere Esteem

Your Honours
most obedient humble Servant

James. Hamilton.

Philadelphia
4th March 1754.

From
Q Que Affaires Etr
Mémoire et Pièces

6thly.

And as the English have few Oxen or Horses, they are free to hide their Effects, and come and search for them when they have met their Horses, and that they may for this end have Guardians in what number they please upon Condition that they will give their Word of Honour not to Work upon any building in this Place or any part this side of the Mountain during a Year to be accounted from this Day.

7thly.

And as the English have in their Power an Officer, two Cadets, and most of the Prisoners made in the Assasination of the Sr De Jamonville, and that they promise to send them back wth Safe guard, to the Fort Duquesne, situated on the Fine River, and for Surety of this Article, as well as this Treaty, Mr. Jacob Vambram & Robert Stobo,* both Captains, shall be put as Hostages 'till the Arrivall of the Cannadians & French above mentioned. We oblidge ourselves, on our Side, to give an Escort, to return in Safety these two Officers. We promise our French in two Months & a half at farthest. A Duplicate being made upon one of the Posts of our Bloccade the day above.

CON VILLIER.

Indorsed.

Capitulation granted to Col. Washington by Monsieur De Villier, Commander of the French Troops, 3d July, 1754.†

Copy of Deed to "Susquehanna Co.," by Indians, 1754.

To all People to Whom These Presents shall Come, Greeting:— Know Yee, That We, Kahih,to,ton, Abraham Pieters, Willem Tarigjo, Xis, Brant Cou,wig,no,ge, Henderick Pieters, Te,ge no,je, Ca,na,ge,ga,je, Cag,swig,te,jo,ne, Set Ju,ta,ra,rie, Johanis So,ge,-howa,ne, Johnis Ca,na,de,ga,ie, Nikes, Ca,rig,iak,ta,die, Johanis Sig,na,ge,rat, Ca,ris,ta,go, Se,nos,ses, A,gwe,jo,ta, Sea,ron,ja,pe, Half King, And Sea,ner,ra,die, Being Chiefs, Sachems, & Heads of the Five Nations of Indians, called the Iroquois, and the Native Proprietors of a Large Tract of Land on, About, & Adjacent to the River Susquehannah, Between the fourty-first & fourty-Third Degrees of North Latitude, And being within the Limits and Bounds

* The Lithograph view of Fort Du Quesne, here inserted, accompanied Letters from Capt. Robert Stobo and Geo. Croghan, printed in Colonial Records, Vol. VI. pp. 141 and 161—3, where a blank is left for this plan, and some particulars of the fort are given. July 28 and 29, 1754.

† See it in French, Vol. VI. p. 52, Colon. Rec.

of the Charter, and Grant of his late Majesty, King Charles 2nd., To the Colonys of Connecticutt. And Whereas, a Large Number of the Leige & Good Subjects of His Royall Majesty, George 2nd. of Great Britain, &c., King; Inhabitants of his sd. Majestys English Colonys of Connecticutt, &c., to the Number of About six hundred, have Applyd to us for the purchase of sd. above mention'd Tract of Land, for a Plantation to settle upon:

Thereupon Whereas, A Constant & Cordial friendship from the Time of our Progenitors & Predecessors to this day, hath allways been subsisting Between us & our Brethren the English Subjects of his sd. Majesty, King George, & of his Royall Predecessors, Kings & Queens of Great Britain, &c., The Continuation of which we heartily Desire: And whereas, the Enabling and Encourageing Our sd. English Brethren to plant and settle in a Nearer Neighbearhood to us than heretofore. may Greatly Contribute to Our Safety & Defence against the Unjust Encroachments and Insults of the French Indians in alliance with them, and to the benefit & Increase of Our Trade, And Also may be Very Conducive to Our Obtaining a more full & Clear Knowledge of the True God & the Christian Religion, and thereby fix & Establish a More firm, solid, and Lasting friendship with his sd. Majesties English Subjects.

Now Thereupon, for & in Consideration thereof, as also for the further, full, & Ample Consideration of the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds, New York Currency, To us, to Our full Satisfaction, before the Ensealing Hereof, Contented and Paid, the Receipt Whereof, to full Content, we do hereby acknowledge, And Thereupon, do Give, Grant, Bargain, Sell, Convey, and Confirm, Unto

Hezekiah Huntingdon, Esqr.,
Roger Wolcott, Jnr., Esqr.,
Coll Elisha Williams,
Phineas Lyman, Esqr.,
Daniel Edwards, Esqr.,
Coll Samuell Talcutt, Esqr.,
George Willys, Esqr.,
Thomas Wells, Esqr.,
Siphalet Dyer, Esqr.,
Jabez Fitch, Esqr.,
John Smith, Esqr.,
Ezekiel Perry, Esqr.,
Thomas Seymore,
Will Pitkin, Jnr., Esqr.,
Eliezar Fitch, Esqr.,
John Fitch,
Samuell Gray, Esqr.,
Jedediah Elderkin,
John Abbe,
William Andrass,
Moses Barnett,
John Backus,
Noah Briggs,
Caleb Bates,
Jonathan Baker,
Nehemiah Barker,
Ezra Belding,
William Buck,
Jehiel Barnam,
Gideon Bingham,
Robert Crery, Jnr.,
Benjamen Crery,
Christopher Crery,
Abijah Crery,
Giles Churchel,
Barnet Dixon,
Robert Dixon,
David Downing,
John Dixon,
John Dorrance,

James Dixon,
Nathaniell Daniels,
Samuell Dorranil,
Richard Downer,
Josiah Dean, Jnr.,
Asa Douglass,
Gideon Denning,
Joseph Eaton,
Joshua Elderkin,
Edward Ewings,
Elias Frink,
Elijah Francis,
John Gaston,
John Grosvenor,
Ebenezer Grosvenor,
Stephen Gardner,
Stephen Gardner, Jnr.,
Jonathan Gardner,
David Griswold,
Elija Griswold,
Robert Hunter,
John Hunter,
Henry Hewell,
John Howard,
Sara Huntingdon,
Stephen Harden,
John Hough,
Josiah Horsford,
Daniel Horsford,
John Judd,
William Jackson,
John Jenkes,
Joseph Kyle,
Archilaiel Casson,
Samuell Kason,
Adam Kason,
Jeremiah Kenney,
Moses Kenney,
Gedion Kenney,
Nathan Kenney,
John Kenney,
Spencer Kenney,
John Clagwin,
Hugh Kennedy, Jnr.,
Thomas Kennedy, Jnr.,
Seth Kent,
James Kasson,
John Leavins,
Ebenezer Larnard,
Steven Lee,
Isaac Lee,
Edward Mott,
James Montgomery,
John Montgomery,
Gauss Miller,
Samuell McGarland,
John Montgomery,
Joseph Moffitt,
Manassah Minor,
Thomas Mansfield,
John Manning, Jnr.,
Josiah Orcutt,
William Parkes,
Matthew Patrick,
Jacob Patrick,
Joseph Phillips,
Benjamin Prerie, Jnr.,
Robert Parkes,
Nathan Parkes,
Jeremia Ross,
Stephen Rude,
Obadiah Rhodes,
Noah Stantly,
John Stantly,
Timothy Stantly,
Thomas Snell,
Lemuell Smith,
John Stevens,
Isack Shepard,
Jesse Spading,
Thomas Stewart,
John Streater,
Nehemiah Stepkens,
Andrew Stepkens,
Benjamin Stepkens,
Solomon Stoddard,
Ebenezer Smith, Jnr.,
Ebenezer Smith,
Uriah Stephens,
Joseph Smith, Junr.,
Samuel Silsby,
Simon Tubbs,
Joseph Taylor,
Philip Turner,
Samuel Taylor,
Judah Wright,

Eliphalet Whilletsog,
Joseph Walden,
David Walers,
Isack Warner,
William Williams,
John Wiley, Junr.,
Thomas Wiley,
Hugh Wiley,
James Willey,
Ebenezer Wright,
Isaac Woodworth,
William Whiling,
William Churchil,
Josiah Curtue,
Nathan Booth,
Jehabod Willes,
Phinehas Judd,
Stephen Skinner,
William Fitch,
James Bradford,
Matthew Patrick, Jnr.,
Nathaniel Wales, Jnr.,
Nathaniel Hovey,
Prince Tracy,
Noah Gilbert,
Daniel Knolton,
William Huston,
Mosiss Fish,
John Johnson, Junr.,
William Chandler, Esqr.,
Nathaniel Warner,
Gershorn Durrance,
Thomas Pierce,
Samuell Chandler, Esqr.,
Nathaniel Berry,
Nathaniel Weeler, Esqr.,
Zebadiah Farnum,
Daniel Stoughton.
Jonas Shepard,
Matthew Talcott,
Joseph Church,
Ezekiel Williams,
John Humphry, Esqr.,
Roger Hooker,
Alexander Wolcott,
Samuell Talcott,
Thomas Hosmore, Esqr.,
Jonathan Hale, Esqr.,
Abener Moseley,
Peletiah Mills,
Daniel Goodwin,
Jonathan Humphry,
Jonathan Pettibone,
Andrew Robe,
David Phelpes,
Hezekiah Humphry,
Hezekiah Phelpes,
John Victes,
Joseph Welles,
Timothy Seymore,
Russell Woodbridge,
William Stantly,
Samuel Welles,
John Walt,
Benjamin Callwell,
Alixander Gaston,
Rowland Barton,
Alixander Phelips,
Niles Colman,
David Barker,
Benjamin Pumroy,
John Fitch, Junr.
Joseph Warren,
Seat Dean,
Samuell Hunter,
Noah Webster,
Thomas Howard,
Zebulon Waterman,
Ebenezer Leach,
Penuel Bewen,
Israel Dimock,
Abiel Abbott,
Thomas Hedman,
James Hedman,
Ebenezer Griffin,
Thomas Stephens,
Thomas Stephens, Jun.
Benjamin Lee,
Stephen Fuller,
Paul Holt,
Benjamin Collins,
James Willson,
James Douglass,
John Campbell,
Hugh Wyley, Junr.
Benjamin Parke,

Bartholeme Arthur,
Thomas Jones,
Joseph Taylour,
John Read,
William Swetland,
Pieter Swetland,
Jonathan Harriss,
Elisha Scovill,
Ebeinezer Williames,
Abel Griswold,
Stephen Jenkins,
David Deway,
Gershom Breed,
John Newton,
John Grant,
Ephraim Gardner,
Gershome Hinkley,
Joshua Randsome,
Miles Gordon,
Isaac Tracy,
James Hide,
Asa Walerman,
John Baldwin,
Elijah Backus,
Phenchas Holden,
Christopher Palmer,
Thomas Anderson,
Allen Willey,
John Rollebone,
Daniel Ely,
David Dodge, Junr.
Ebenezer Watson,
Samuel Stoughton,
Samuel Willes, Junr.
Isaac Sheldon,
Ebenezer Beacher,
Oliver Wolcott,
Elisha Sheldon,
Ebenezar Marsh,
Samuel Cockrin,
Benjamin Green,
Ephraim Andrus,
Daniel Turner,
George Palmer,
Capt. Uriah Stephens,
Samuel Orlin,
Jacob Hensdel,
Thomas Williams,
Zebulon Stephens,
Thomas Wattson,
Joseph Bird, Esqr.
John Holmes,
John Dean,
Increase Moseley, Esqr.
John Hutchinson, Esqr.
Ebenezer Fletcher,
Joshua Whitney,
Samuel Slaughter,
Robert Hannis,
Noah Stephens,
David Whitney, Esqr.
Jedediah Stephens,
Jonathan Smith,
Thomas Parmely,
Oliver Sanford,
Azariah Orton,
Josiah Everitt,
Francis Ditts,
Josiah Ditts,
Timothy Rose,
Timothy Everitt,
Silas Storey,
Hezekiah Hooker,
Jedediah Richards,
Pieter Gransan,
Richard Reat,
Ebenezer Gransan,
Daniel Berry,
John Franklin,
Robert Walker,
Edward Spalding,
Josiah Cleaveland,
Samuell Lee,
Elier Andruss,
William Fellows,
Seth Northon,
Levi Watson,
Eliphalet Ensign,
Lemuel Orton.
Eliezer Gooden,
Daniel Willcocks,
Samuell Gooden,
Turbel Whitney,
James Bird,
Thomas Bird,
John Miner,

Joseph Allen,
James Dunham,
Robert Wincott,
Thomas Stephens,
Joshua Rathbone,
John Rathbone,
Elijah Dean,
John Read,
Edward Waldow,
Jacob Rathbone,
Isaac Gallop,
Jonathan Wealdor,
Daniel Rothbone,
Daniel Miner,
Valentine Rothbone,
Agur Judson,
Zachariah Clark,
Peter Curtue,
James Livingworth,
Jedediah Mills,
Samuell Defourest,
Elisha Mills,
Francis Hawley,
Edmund Lewis, Jur.
Daniel Hide,
Josiah Lewis. Junr.
John Laboree,
Ephraim Judson,
John French,
Jabez Sommers,
Josiah Robinson,
Nathaniel Baker,
Joseph Arnold,
Benjamin Thompson,
Daniell Morriss,
John Androws,
Benjamin Rhamsey, Junr.
Josiah Wakeman,
Daniel Sherwood,
Cornelius Hull,
Stephen Whaman, Junr.
Thomas Couch,
Josiah Beardsley,
Ephraim Bennet,
Matthew Curtice,
Jonathan Boothe,
Caleb Baldwin,
Jonathan Willard,
Joshua Wells,
Joseph Hulbart,
Isaac Sawyer,
Samuell Flagg,
Daniel Lothrop,
John Elderkin,
Stephen Beckwith,
Jeremiah Clements,
Samuell Gore,
Benjamin Gale,
William Whitney,
Barzillai Handee,
Isaac Lawrence,
Joseph Palmetre,
Malachi Butler,
Joseph Follit,
John Spencer, Junr.
Elijah Hide,
Nathaniel Cushman,
Caleb Hide,
Obediah Newcomb,
Joseph Bingham, Junr.
John Strong,
Noah Dewey,
Joseph Skiff,
Jonathan Hall,
Jabez Dean,
Joseph Wight,
Obadia Gore,
Abel Clarke,
Seth Smith,
John Birchard, 3d,
Joseph Denison, Esqr.
Samuell Fracy,
Ephraim Bill,
Hubbard Pride,
Thomas Welles,
Thomas Fish,
Thomas Branch, Junr.
Benjamin Wintworth,
Simon Huntington,
Isaac Tracy, Junr.
John Wood,
Oliver Spuer,
Benjamin Giles,
Thomas Giles,
Docter Moffit.
Thomas Stantly,

Jonathan Ginnings,
Simon Bachus,
Ebenezer Grover,
Joseph Billing, Junr.
Robert Kenady,
John Williams,
Daniel Lathan,
John Choate,
Jacob Kimball,
Thomas Boles,
Elisha Tracy,
Joseph Tracy, Junr.
Isaac Saben,
William Lothrop,
Daniel Rockwell,
Benedict Arnold,
Nathaniel Parker,
George Denniss,
Rachel Milliner,
John Edgerton,
Samuel Walworth,
Cristopher Starke,
Thomas Walworth.
Stephon Billings,
Jonathan Stricklan,
John Bliss,
Samuell Hunn,
Seth Alden,
John Birchard,
Robert Boyington,
Marock Ward,
Jacob Drake, Junr.
Ashbel Woodbridge,
Eliazar Tallcott,
Silas Wells,
John Wells,
Samuel Burnes,
Constant Catlen,
John Hensdill,
Jedediah Norton,
Elisha Hale,
Jacob Drake,
Asahel Drake,
Barnabas Hatch,
Josiah Cowles,
John Webster,
John Cook,
Ruben Swift,
Isaac Mosely,
Jonathan Laniton,
John Patersan,
Nathan Pason,
Oliver Badcock,
Solamon Grant,
Benjamin Newcomb,
Joseph Lippett,

472. All of the Aforesaid Colony of Connecticut, New England, And To

Jabez Bowen, Esqr.,
Jonathan Randall, Esqr.,
Job Randall, Esqr.,
Jonathan Nicolls, Esqr.,
Robert Hazzerd,
Benjamin Brown,
Francis Coelgrove,
Martin Howard,
Philip Wilkison,
Daniel Ayrautt,
Gorge Dorrance,
Samuell Dorrance,
Michel Dorrance,
Elnathan Warker,
Amos Stafford, Junr.,
Simon Draper,
Thomas Mattison,
Daniel Lawrance,
Amos Stafford,
Samuall Drown,
John Bucklin,
Thomas Burt,
Jonathan Morey,
Charles Harriss,
William Shaldon,
Eliakim Walker,
Richard Charnton,
Beriah Brown,
John Reynold,
John Bynold, Junr..
Jonathan Reynold,
Benjamin Sheffield,
Jonathan Hamilton,

33. Of the Colony of Rhodisland, In New England, And to

Daniel Shoemaker,

Benjamin Shoemaker,
Joseph Skinner,
Abraham Feniump, Esqr.,
John Adkins, Esqr.,
Samuell Dupew,
John Panater, Esqr.,
Danel Henshaw,
Aaron Depew,
Solomon Ginnings,
10. All of the Governmentt of Pensilvania, And to
Timothy Woodbridge,
Henderick Brower, Ja^{r}.,
John Wing,
John Wing, Jn^{r}.,
David King,
5. Of the Province of The Massachusetts Bay, & to
Jacob Booseboom,
Wiliam DeBidder,
Abraham J. Lansing,
Jeremia Hogeboom,
Jonathan Buck,
Balthazart Lydius,
John Roosa,
Johannis Seger, Junr.,
8. Of the Province of New York, Being all Five Hundred & Thirty-Four in Number, to Each & Every of the persons before & above mentioned and named, the Two Twelve hundredeth and Twenty-Four Parts of the Large Tract or Parcell of Land as hereafter described and Bounded. And we do also for & Upon the Considerations aforesaid, Give, Grant, Bargain, Sell, Convey, & Confirm Unto
Eliphalet Newell,
Jacob Dana,
John Webb,
Oliver Parish,
Paul Hebard,
Hezekiah Huntington,
Ebenezer Bebbens,
Abraham Snow,
Eliazer Done,
Joseph Spolding,
Curtice Spolding,
Thomas Brown,
John Eddy,
Judah Fay,
Joseph Alixander,
John Cambel, 3^{d},
James Cambel, Junr.,
Jacob Simons,
Jeduthum Simons,
Benjamin Park,
Henry Arnold,
John Wells,
Jacob Sisio,
Hezekiah Demmon,
Samuell Douglass,
James Morris,
Samuell Jackson,
Samuell Gorden,
Gideon Baldwin,
Abel Barnes,
Hezekiah Orton,
John Wough,
Thomas Lylly,
Samuell Norton,
Hezekiah Hooker,
Thomas Fellows,
James Hanners,
Joseph Fellows,
Henrey Bass,
Benjamin Follet,
Simeon Dean,
John Steal,
Elisha Steal,
Samual Church,
Ebenezor Lewis,
Caleb Wheeler,
Jehiel Bryant,
Cotton Fletcher,
John Fellows,
Samuell Ford,
Job Marsh,
John Perkins,

Thomas Porter,
Andrew Baron,
Thomas Day,
David Bradwell,
Gideon Lawrence,
Jessee Stevens,
Alixander Hinman,
Natheniel Crandull,
Joshun Birch,
Eli Colton,
Daniel Alden,
Nathaniel Loomiss,
George Crery,
Oliver Crery,
Aaron Crery,
William Crery,
Ebanezer Cheney,
John Cogswell,
John Cone,
John Coleburt,
Abraham Harden,
Jonathan Sanger,
Thomas Steal,
Thomas Warner,
Zachareah Bucknall,
John Royce,
Samuell Douglas,
Josuah Donlap,
Alixander Stevens,
Benjamin Bill,
Elias Fink, Junr.,
Joseph Hagen,
Samuell Webb, Junr.,
Seth Wright,
John Larebee,
Nathaniel Hide,
Ephraim Dean,
Phineahas Lewiss,
John Strong,
Hezekiah May,
Thomas Wells,
Josiah Grifwol,
James Lockwood,
Elisha Williams, Junr.,
Ezekiel Porter,
Samuell May,
Joseph Webb,
Thomas Belding, Junr.,
Samuell Curtice,
John Hart,
William Wadeworth,
Peter Judson,
Nehemiah Lewiss,
Lott Norton,
David Bigilo, Junr.,
John Young,
Jacob Simons, 3d,
Zebulon Heberd,
Joshua Read,
Gideon Heberd,
Joseph Badcock,
Samuell Bennit,
David Palmer,
Benajah Parkes,
Josiah Parkes,
Gideon Haskell,
Jacob Geers,
Benjamin Geers,
John Read, Junr.,
Elnathan Street,
Constant Caston,
William Manly,
Caleb Moses,
Mark Leavensworth,
John Leavensworth,
Ezra Stiles,
Jonathan Fitch,
Nathanial Barnes,
James Case,
Daniell Bull,
Joseph Case,
Elisha Cornish,
Isaac Petebone.
Timothy Moses,
Oliver Humphry,
Jacob Case,
Abel Petebone,
William Manly, Junr.,
Giles Petebone,
Abraham Petebone,
John Barker,
John Spencer,
Samuell Hulbert,
Gideon Burr,
Richard Cook,
Seth Loomiss,

Jonathan Leavingworth,	John Hugens,
Thomas Humphries,	Ephraim Robinson,
Moser Bellamy,	John Andross, And
Aaron Bellamy,	Miles Riggs.

All Being of the Colony of Connecticutt aforesaid, to the Number of One Hundred & Fifty-Six, The One-Twelve Hundredeth & Twenty-Four Part of the same Large Tract or parcell of Land afores^{d}, (of all Which Aforenamed Persons the sum afores^{d} Was Received,) Which said Given & Granted Tract of Land is Butted, Bounded & Described as followeth, viz.: Beginning from the One and fortieteth Degree of North Latitude, at ten miles Distance East of Suskahana River, and from thence with a Northward Line Ten miles East of the River to the end of the forty-second or Beginning of the forty-third Degree of North Latitude, And so to Exten^{d} West Two Degrees of Longatude One Hundred & Twenty miles, & from thence South to the Beginning of the forty-second degree, And from thence East to the Aforementioned Boundrie, whis is ten miles East of Suskahana River, Together with all and every the Mines, Minerals or Ore of What kind soever Standing, Growing, being found or to be found Upon any part or Parcel thereof, And all Other the Hereditaments And Appurtenances to the said Part or Tract belonging or in any Ways Appertaining, And the Reversion And Reversions, Remainder And Remainders, &c., TO have and to hold All the Above Granted And Bargained Premisses, With all the Appurtenances thereof Unto All the Above And forenamed persons in Manner And Proportion aforesaid, And to their Heirs and Assigns, And to their Only proper use, Benefitt And Behoof for Ever, as a free, Clear and Absolute Estate of Inheritance in fee simple, free of all Incumberances Whatsoever.

And we, the Afores^{d} Ca-hik-to-ton, Abraham Pieters, William Tarig-jo-ris, Brant Con-wig-no-ge, &c., &c., &c., Sachems and Cheifs as aforenam'd, Do hereby Covenant to and With All the Afore Named Grantees and Each and Every of them, that All and Untill the Enscaling & Delivery hereof, We Are the True, Sole and Lawfull Owners of the Above Granted Premises, and have Good Right, power and Authority to Bargain & Sell the same, in manner and form as Above Written; And furthermore, we the Aforenamed Ca-hik-to-ton, Abraham Pieters, William Tarig-jo-ris, Brant Con-wig-no-ge, Sachems and Cheifs as afores^{d}, do by these presents for Us our Heirs & Successors, Covenant and Promis to and With all and Every of the Afore Named Persons, Grantees in this Deed, All the Above Granted and Bargain'd Premisses & Appurtenances Thereof unto all and Every of the Afore nam'd Persons, Grantees in this Deed, And to their and every of their Heirs and Assigns in Manner and Proportion afores^{d} for Ever, to Warrant, Secure and Defend.

In Witness whereof, we have each of us hereunto set our Marks

and affiix'd our Seals, this Eleventh Day of July, in the Twenty-Eight Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Second of Great Britain, &c., King, Annoq Domini, One Thousand Seven hundred Fifty-Fore.

his Chief of the
KA-HIK-TO-TON ⋈ [s.]
mark. Sinkes.

his Chief of the
ABRAHAM ⋈ PIETERS, [s.]
mark Tribe of ye Bar.

his
WILLIAM ⋈ TA-RIG-IO-RIS. [s.]
mark.

his
BRANT ⋈ CO-WIG-NO-GE. [s.]
mark.

his Chief of
GAGIWIGTJONIE ⋈ [s.]
mark. Onondage.

Signed, Sealed & Deliver'd in the presence of
EPH. WILLIAMS, Junr.
JOSEPH KELLOG.

his Chief of
CANAGEGAIE ⋈ [s.]
mark. Pnodage.

his
SET ⋈ JESTARARIE. [s.]
mark.

his
JOHANIS ⋈ SOGEHOWANE. [s.]
mark.

his
SENOSIS ⋈ ONIDE. [s.]
mark.

his
JOHANIS ⋈ CANADEGAIE. [s.]
mark.

Signed, Sealed & Deliverd in Presence of
JAMES CHARYS.
MARTIN LYDIUS.

his
SCANERADIE ⋈ CAJOEGEN. [S.]
mark.

his
SCARONIADE ⋈ Half King. [S.]
mark.

his
CARISTAGO ⋈ ONIDE. [S.]
mark.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of, March 4, 1785.
SIBERANT VAN SCHAICK, Junr.
JACOB VAN WOERT, Junr.
MARTIN LYDIUS.

his
AKWIJOTA ⋈ ONIDE. [S.]
mark.

his
JOHANIS ⋈ SEGNAGERAT. [S.]
mark.

his
CARGQEJESA ⋈ ONIDE. [S.]
mark.

his
NIKES ⋈ CARIGJAKLADIE. [S.]
mark.

Signed, Sealed & Delivered in Presence of
SIBRANT VAN SCHAICK, Junr.
JOHANIS J. WENDEL.

[The aforegoing is a True & Exact Copy of the Original Deed or Writing.

FITCH.

A Copy
JOHN W. LYDIUS.

* The foregoing is probably the Deed alluded to as obtained by Lydius—in letter of James Stevenson, Sept. 17, 1754, see it on page 170.

† See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 111, 257, 284, 291, 293. Also Miner's History of Wyoming, for an account of this transaction and Deed, p. 68, &c.

Governor Hamilton to Governor of Connecticut, 1754.

Copy.

Sir:

I have received Information that a Party of your Inhabitants did some time ago pass thro the remote Parts of this Province, on their Way to Wyomink, upon Sasquehannah River, and gave out that they had made a Purchase of those Lands from the Mohock Indians, and they had your Authority to come and settle them, being included within the Boundaries of the Connecticut Charter, and offered their Titles to any who were disposed to purchase; and this, tho I have disregarded it as an idle Story is now confirmed by Persons of Character, who have been in Connecticut, and assure me that a large Number of your Inhabitants, tho without the Countenance or Knowledge of the Government, were actually preparing to remove in the Spring and settle some of the Pennsylvania Lands on Sasquehannah, depending on their Indian Title, and not designing to pay any Regard to the Rights of our Proprietaries, or apply to this Government for their Leave and Authority.

Tho I can scarce perswade myself that any considerable Number would engage in so rash and unjust a Proceeding, yet as it may be true, tho highly improbable, I find myself obliged to communicate to your Honour these Informations, and entreat You would be pleased to do all in your Power to prevent these People from putting their Design in Execution, assured as I am, that if they make the Attempt they will involve this Province in an endless Scene of Trouble and Confusion, and as they must expect Opposition, it may prove prejudicial to the Cause of the Colonies; If, as it is very probable We shall be engaged in a War to repel the French, who have actually invaded this Province, and are now erecting Forts and driving away our Traders within its Limits, a Number of Strangers should come

amongst Us and forcibly take Possession of our Lands, what can his Majesty or the other Colonies think but that they are Enemies to their Country, and design to hinder this Government from exerting its Force against the common Enemy, by raising a civil War within its Bowels.

I beseech your Honour further to consider, that the Six Nations will be highly offended if these Lands on Sasquehannah be overrun with White People, for they are their favourite Lands and reserved for their Hunting, and many of them live there, and they have the Faith of this Government, solemnly and repeatedly plighted, that no White People shall settle there, and if notwithstanding these publick Engagements they shoud now be settled, I will not answer for the Consequences, they may not only turn their Arms against the Settlers but withdraw themselves from our Alliance, which might at this time prove the Ruin of our Affairs, and involve the Colonies in endless Bloodshed and Expence.

I cannot conceive how the Inhabitants of Connecticut, whose Laws as well as Ours, prohibit and render invalid all private Contracts with the Natives, could go in so clandestine a manner to treat with the Mohocks about these Lands, surely they are Worthy of much Censure on many Accounts, but at this time it is peculiarly unfortunate, as it may create a Difference between the Mohocks and the Rest of the Six Nations, between whom there is an Agreement that the Mohocks shall have nothing to do with the Lands in Pennsylvania, nor take any Part of the Presents received for them, because they have already had more than their Share for other Lands, and therefore the Mohocks never come here on Treaties for Land.

But why will your Inhabitants chuse such a disorderly and dangerous Way of obtaining the Possession of Lands when they may have a legal Settlement. There is a large Extent of Country in the Western Parts of this Province, and That of Virginia vacant, and some of the best Lands in North America. If, therefore, any considerable Number of Families want to remove and are minded to settle these Lands, I make no doubt but our Proprietaries will be glad to give them good Encouragement, and if they encline that I shall write in their favour, I will cheerfully do it at your Instance, and press them to return a speedy Answer, which may arrive here time enough for the Planters to go and view these Western Parts in the Winter, and prepare, if they find them agreeable, for their Removal as early as the Season in the Spring will permit.

Or if the Lands of Virginia shall be found more agreeable, I will recommend them to that Government who have lately made a Law for the Encouragement of New Settlers, and Both Governments will not fail to obtain for them the Friendship and kind Assistances of the Indians in those Parts, in whichsoever of the Two they shall chuse to settle.

Shoud any of your Inhabitants be desirous to enquire of our Constitution and the Quality of the Lands in the uncultivated Parts

of the Province, they will receive an impartial Account of them from the Gentleman who is charged with this Letter, who is a Member of Assembly and the Proprietary Surveyor over Sasquehannah, and well acquainted with the Lands not yet appropriated; for these Reasons I have prevailed upon him to take this Journey, that he might answer any Questions, and give Satisfaction in all Points necessary to be known in this matter, and I crave Leave to recommend him to your Honour as a Gentleman whose Relations may be received with the utmost Confidence in whatever he be desired to give an Account of.

I am perswaded your Honour will perceive the dangerous Consequences that must needs attend the Settlement of the Sasquehannah Lands by your People in the manner they propose, under the present Circumstances of Affairs, that it cannot fail to exasperate the Indians, raise a Civil War in the Province and distract the Government, at a time when all the Attention I am Master of may be wanted to conduct the momentous concerns of the Public, execute his Majesties Command and preserve the Colonies from falling a Prey to our Enemies. Suffer me then to repeat my Request, that You woud please to detain your People at home, and prevail with them to hearken to sober and moderate Counsels, which in the end will prove more to their Advantage. I am with sincere Esteem,

Your Honours
most obedient
humble Servant,
JAMES HAMILTON.

Philadelphia, 4th March, 1754.

To the Honourable Roger Wolcott, Esquire, Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majesties Province of Connecticut, at Windsor.

Read in Council, 12 March, 1754.

Governor Hamilton's Letter to the Deputy Gov'r. of Connecticut.

Sir:

Hearing that a Number of the Inhabitants of Connecticut are preparing to come and settle some Lands in this province in a forcible manner, and being apprehensive that it may be of bad consequence at a Time when we may be probably be engaged in a War to repel the Hostile Attempts of the French, I have wrote a Letter to Governor Wolcott on this Subject, and take the freedom to enclose you a Copy of it, and request you will be pleased to give your Assistance in this Affair.

I have not the Honour of a Personal Acquaintance with you, yet I am told the people have a great Esteem for you, and Dependance

* See answer of T. Fitch, March 13, p.

New York 5th March. 1754

Sir.

In answer to your Excellency's
favor of the 14th of February, wherein you point
out to me the inconvenience it will be to have
Commissioners from your Government so soon as
the 19th of June the day appointed for an interview
with the Indians at Albany. I must beg leave to
acquaint your Excellency, that last year when
Colo. Johnson was sent up into the Onondago Country
he was directed to inform the Indians that by
reason of Governor Clintons indisposition & the daily
expectation of a new Governor, there could not be
a meeting that year with them at Albany, but
that there should be one early this year, which
he told them accordingly and they were in expectation of
afterwards. the Lords Commissioners for Trade &c
having observed the dissatisfaction the Mohawk Indians
shewed at their being with Governor Clinton at
New York, in their Letter to Sir Danvers Osborne
of March 20th after his death, directed
that a Treaty should be had with the Indians
to prevent any ill effects that
might happen from that temper of the Mohawks. I
did therefore with the advice of Council appoint
the 19th of June for the interview at Albany and
ordered the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to send
a proper person to acquaint the Indians therewith,
and Coll. Johnson who is nevertheless tells me that the
Interpreter was gone of that Message, before he left
Your Excellency at Albany; he thinks if the time be postponed, it will
Governor Shirley

have a very bad effect on the [illegible] of the Indians, as the French will not fail to infuse jealousies into them & take hence from thence to discourage and keep some of them from coming to the Interview, the Council were all of the same opinion upon my communicating to them the paragraph of your Excellency's letter to them on this head. so that I conceive it would not be for his Majesty's Services to postpone the time after the steps already taken and the like notice I have given to the Governments to the Westward.
I am sorry the exigency of affairs has obliged me to appoint a time that is inconvenient to you; the June is the month in which for some years past the meeting with the Indians has been appointed to be held; I should have been glad to have attend the time to have suited your Excellency's convenience but I hope the reasons assigned will give you satisfaction. I shall endeavor to what service I can at the intended interview for the general Utility and shall be highly obliged to you for your sentiments on this occasion, you know the regard I have for you I shall lay great weight on your judgement in this as all other occasions. I thank you for what you say as to Connecticut & Rhode Island, I am disgusted with some Gentlemen here upon the expedition [illegible] the Government of Connecticut [illegible] interview the all agreed in opinion [illegible] Excellency, as being persuaded of their readiness to [illegible] such a measure of Rhode Island are despended as they are secured by being covered with other Colonies. I shall write to them both on this subject.
I shall endeavor to give your Excellency the best account I can of the reasonable Quota of Men & Money each Colony ought to contribute towards the common cause as soon as I shall be able to obtain any probable accounts

The French are cutting out a deal of work for themselves by making a settlement in your Government at a time, when they are so busely employed to the southward in making encroachments on the Ohio. I heartily wish you success in dislodging them, & that I make no doubt, Nothing in my opinion could give them a greater check and more effectually put a stop to their continual encroachments, than bringing the five Nations of Indians into a firm friendship and dependance on the British Interest, and nothing can conduce more to so desireable an purpose, than building forts in their Countries as places of shelter to secure their wives & children against the incursions of the French by shewing them a readiness on our parts to protect and defend them on all occasions of need, but this cannot be effectuated but by an Union of Councils & a joint expence of all the Colonies; if something of this kind could be accomplished at the interview at Albany or at least a plan for this purpose agreed on & afterwards approved and carried on by the several governments it would be a happy event I am with esteem

Your Excellency's

most obedient & most humble

Servant James De Lancey

PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. M, PP. 285-294.

The Matter appeared to the Council to be of the utmost Importance; they thought every Step should be taken that could possibly prevent such a Scene of Confusion, as would certainly arise if the People of Connecticut should put their Design in Execution; and therefore recommended it to the Governor to write to the Governor and Deputy Governor of Connecticut, informing them of these Proceedings; setting forth the Mischiefs likely to accrue from them and praying the Interposition of that Government to stop the Departure of their People on such a dangerous Enterprize as this: least, together with the Concern raised in every Breast by the Unhappiness of a foreign Invasion, the Colonies should have the additional Affliction of seeing a Civil War commence in the Bowels of Two of their most populous Provinces; and further, thought it would be proper to send Conrad Weiser to the Six Nations and those of Wyoming to put them upon their Guard against those Proceedings.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 12th of March 1754.
The Governor still indisposed.

Present:

John Penn, Benjamin Shoemaker, Esquires
Robert Strettell, Richard Peters

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

Memorandum. On the Fourth Instant a Message was brought by two Members to the Governor, desiring to know if he had any thing further to lay before them in relation to the Western Bounds of this Province; and also if he had received any late Advices from the Govrnr of Virginia. And the Governor made Answer, that he would send down to the House the several Evidences relating to the Western Bounds of Pennsylvania, which convinced him that the Hostilities, mentioned in his Message, were committed within this Province; and he made no doubt but they would be as convincing to the House; and further that he had not received any Advices from Virginia since those he communicated to the House. And accordingly the Governor having received from Mr Peters, Mr West, Mr Montour and Mr Patten their several Informations in Writing, he laid them before the House, together with Mr Pattens Map, the French map of Monsieur Bellin bound up in Charlevoix's History of Canada, a Certificate of Mr Scull the Surveyor General and Mr Grew the Mathematical Professor in the Academy of the Extent of Five Degrees of Longitude in Latitude forty a mounting to two hundred and sixty five miles, and likewise a Calculation founded upon and drawn up by these several Informations, whence it appeared, that from Philadelphia to the River Ohio on a due West Course, the Distance did not exceed

His Honour further ordered the Secretary and the other Gentlemen to attend the House, in order to explain to them the Draughts and Calculations, and to give them all the Light possible into this Affair, that they might obtain all manner of Satisfaction, as to the Truth of the French Forts and the River Ohio being within the Limits of this Province.

The Secretary was likewise ordered to deliver this verbal Message along with the Papers viz.

Sir,

The Governor now sends down to the House the Grounds on which he founded the Assertion in his Message, that Hostilities are committed by the French within the Limits of this Government, and he has directed me to attend with the Vouchers, Draughts and some Evidences to the same, in case the House should be inclined to examine them.

The Calculation of the Distance of the Ohio from Philadelphia according to the several Informations now given to the Governor, is as follows.

In

2 [28]

Pennsylvania. 1754.

In Latitude Forty a Degree of Longitude is Fifty Three Statute Miles, so that Five Degrees make two hundred and sixty five miles		265
	miles	
The Length of the Temporary Line from Philadelphia measured is	144	
a Meridian Line drawn from the End of the Temporary Line cuts allegheny Path at the three Springs, from which Place by Mr. West, Mr. Montour and Mr. Patten's account on a streight Line to Laurel Hill is	52	
[On a Meridian from Laurel Hill is Wenings Town at about 34 Miles Distance according to Mr. Montour and this is agreable to Mr. Patten, Mr. Montour and Mr. West. Who all agree that it is 34. Miles from Laurel Hill to Shanoppin and from Shanoppin to Wenings 34 Miles by what Mr. Patten & Mr. West have heard, and by the Estimate of Mr. Montours Travelling] From Laurel Hill to Shanoppin on the River Ohio is	34	
From the River Ohio is the Western Boundary of the Province is	35	265

From which Account our Province extends thirty five Miles to the Westward of Logs Town and when the Difference between Superficial Measure and Horizontal is computed, as the Course West runs over such vast Mountains and many deep Valleys, it is certain our Bounds must extend much farther.

By a careful Observation Logs Town lies in 40° 27' North.

N. B. The French Fort on Riviere aux Bauf lies North from Wenings about thirty miles.

Information of Mr. Richard Peters to the Governor.

May it please the Governor.

Richard Peters informs the Governor, that in May 1739 the Temporary Line was run by Benjamin Eastburn and other Surveyors, who as well as the Chain Carriers were upon their Oaths or Affirmations, and that the Line was run to the Hillochtonny Hills in Cumberland County, about three miles West from Philip's David's Plantation.

That from the Tangent Line of the Circle of Newcastle to Susquehannah River is twenty five Miles, and from the Eastern Bank of that River to the Termination of the Line eighty eight Miles in all one hundred and thirteen Miles.

That he the said Richard Peters has been at Ducquich, and went from thence to Philip Davids, and by the best Observation he could make, and he was very curious in enquiring, he verily believes that a Place called Ducquich Gap is in the Meridian of the End of the Temporary Line, but may be certain that the Place called the three Springs is to the Eastward of the Meridian,

and consequently no more than one hundred and thirteen Statute Miles Superficial Measure West from the Tangent of the Circle of Newcastle the South Boundary of the Provence.

Richard Peters further informs the Governor, that by the Accounts of Mr. Weiser, Mr. West, Mr. John Harris, Mr. Hugh Crawford, Mr. Andrew Montour and Mr. John Patten which he has to produce, the Distance by Computation from the three Springs to Ohio is the Kays Town Road and the Franks Town Road, tho the Road in Twenty Miles at some Places does not make above Ten Westing, and that it is very crooked, sometimes going to the Southward and sometimes to the Northward of a strait Line, and he verily believes from the Draughts he has seen, and from the Information of the above Persons, it is not more than eighty six Miles Statute from the Three Springs to Shanoppin.

He

He further says that he verily believes the Temporary Line if extended will strike the River Potowmack near the Northern Bend where Charles Poke did live; and if extended to the River Ohio, he verily believes it will pass that River thirty five Miles to the South of Logs Town; and his Reason for saying so is because Shanoppins, by an Observation taken the sixteenth of June 1752 is forty.... Degrees twenty seven Minutes North Latitude, according to Mr West's account, who was present when the Virginia Commissioners made the Observation by a Quadrant of eighteen Inches Radius.

Note. Philadelphia is thirty one Miles to the East of the Tangent.

Note that the Temporary Line is superficial not horizontal Measure, and that by a Certificate of Mr Grew and Mr Scull a Degree of Longitude in Latitude Forty is Fifty Three Statute Miles.

Upon the whole, it is very clear that the Western Bounds of the Province extend thirty five miles West beyond Logs Town, and that Venango and the Riviere aux Bœufs where the Forts are built, being to the East of Logs Town are consequently so much more within the Province. I am

Your Honours

most obedient

humble Servant

Richard Peters

Information of Mr William West to the Governor

Sir,

Agreable to your Request, I herewith send You the Latitude of Shanoppins Town, as taken by Col. Fry the sixteenth of June 1752. I likewise send You the computed Miles from the three Springs to Shanoppin's Town; I begin there, as I take it to be near the same Meridian with the Big Cove, or rather a little to the Eastward of it. You will please to observe that the Road is very crooked, for there being many Hills, we are obliged to make many Windings to come at proper Places to cross them.

About a mile from Shanoppin's Town Suns. Meridian Altitude 16th June 1752 ... 72° 54'

90°

Zenith Distance 17° 6'

Suns Declination 23° 21'

Latitude of Shanoppintown 40° 27

From the three Springs to Sideling Hill ..... 7 miles

to Juniata 19

to Garret Pendergrass's or Rays Town 12

to the Foot of Allegheny Hill 15

to Edmund's Swamp the other Side of Allegheny Hill 12

to Hetcinny Paulins 10

to Logs Channin 20

to Shanoppinstown 50

145 miles

I went to the Logs Town in Company with Capt. Thomas M'Kee, Mr John Carson and other Indian Traders from whom I had the within computed Distances, which in many Places, I think, are estimated more Miles than they would measure, and in some Places We travelled many Miles to make a few Westing, particularly from the Shawonese Cabbins to Hetcinny Paulins, which altho it is computed near thirty Miles, I do not think would make Ten Miles Westing.

I am

Your Honours

most humble Servant

Wm West.

Pennsylvania 1754.

The Examination of Andrew Montour and John Patten taken before the Governor.

Andrew Montour on his Examination says that he has been three times from Logs Town to Weningo on Foot, and came there the second night every time with Ease, that one time was in the Month of March, when his Mother who was blind rode on Horseback and he led the Horse on Foot all the Way, and yet was at Weningo the second Day before night. That he believes it to be sixty Miles by the Road, which lyes Near North East from Logs Town. That a River called by the French Riviere aux Bauf, whose Course is South from its head which is near Lake Erie, runs into the Ohio at Weningo. That the French have lately built Two Forts, One on that River thirty five Miles higher up than Weningo, and the other on a Branch of it at ten miles Distance from the other Fort. And the Reason of his Belief is, that his Cousin Nicholas, who lives at Weningo told him and Mr Patten, that he has frequently gone from Weningo in one day to both the French Forts.

Mr Montour says further, that Weningo is due North from Laurel Hill, and about the same Distance as Shanoppyun is from Laurel Hill, viz: Fifty Miles by the Road.

Mr Patten says he rode in four Days from Ohio the Franks Town Road to Peter Shearers about four miles from Susquehannah River in June 1750, which by the Traders Computation is two hundred and twenty miles.

Mr Patten says that John Harris affirmed to him, that he rode from Rays Town to his own House in two Days which by the Traders Computation is one hundred and twenty six miles.

Both Mr Montour and Mr Patten say, that the Road from the three Springs to Ohio is very crooked, going in many Places to the North and in many to the South of a strait Line, and that Mr Patten having the Governors Instructions to observe the Courses and Distances of the Roads, they used the greatest Exactness in their Power, and do verily believe that the Distance from the three Springs to the River Ohio is not upon a strait Line more than eighty six Miles whatever it is less. All which is submitted to your Honour

by your Honours
most obedient Servants
his
Andrew X Montour
Mark

John Patten

On the ninth Instant the Governor received the following Message by Two Members, who acquainted him, "that the House proposed to adjourn to the sixth Day of May next, if he had no Objection thereto; and that they would at that Time provide for the Expence of Commissioners to be sent to Albany, and make a small Present to be delivered by them to the Indians of the Six Nations, in Behalf of this Province". To which the Governor was pleased to say, "that he desired they would continue sitting, and that he would send down an answer to their Message early in the afternoon".

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

May it please the Governor,

We are willing to hope the several Parts of the Governor's Message of the 2nd Instant, which neither relate to the Royal Orders, under our immediate Consideration, nor to this House, are such as, on Reflection, he will think not altogether suited to preserve that Harmony between the several Branches of the Legislature so necessary at all times, and especially on this important Occasion; but as the Governor, in order to obtain this good End, professes himself ready to contribute every Thing in his Power, consistent with his Honour, and the Trust reposed in him, We shall

most

most chearfully join with him in this desireable Purpose, so far as the Preservation of our Rights, and the Duty We owe our Constituents, can vindicate our Conduct. Nevertheless, as the affairs of our Indian Allies, and our Neighbouring Colonies, continue in the same Situation with Regard to Us as when We sent our Message of the Twenty Seventh of February last, we must in a great Measure, refer to our Sentiments at that time. We then were of Opinion, and still think, the safest Method for Us to conduct Ourselves in Obedience to the Royal Commands, (equally binding on the Governor and Us) would be to recur to Lord Holdernesse's Letter, in which only those Orders were precisely set forth, wherever we judged they differed from the Governors Sentiments, or the Words of his Message to the House on that Occasion; yet this is unhappily imputed to Us as an Endeavour to elude their Force, and a Pretence, in some Measure, for not complying with them, altho', as the Governor is pleased to say, it was impossible we could have understood that Message in any other Light, than as referring to Lord Holdernesse's Letter then lying on our Table; and from this supposed Misconduct of ours, the Governor, as We presume, has suddenly altered the whole Connection between Us and his Majesties Colony of Virginia.

His Governor Dinwiddie had laid before his Assembly the Earl of Holdernesse's Letter, sent, as We presume, in the same Terms to all the Colonies on the Continent, we judged it most prudent to wait till the Assembly of that Government had enabled him to act in Obedience to the Royal Commands, especially as they had that Letter under their Consideration from the first of November last, as appears by the Journal of their House of Burgesses now before Us; but We are now called upon as Principals, and the Governor is pleased to inform Us, that he has undoubted Assurance that Part of his Majesties Dominions within this Government is at this Time invaded by the Subjects of a Foreign Prince, who have erected Forts within the same, and calls upon Us, pursuant to his Majesties Orders in the present Emergency, to grant such Supplies as may enable him to resist those hostile Attempts, and repel Force by Force; but as it appears to Us the Governor is enjoined, by the Royal Orders, not to act as a Principal beyond the undoubted Limits of his Government, and as by the Papers and Evidences sent down, and referred to by the Governor, those Limits have not been clearly ascertained to our Satisfaction; we fear the altering our Connections with his Majesties Colony of Virginia, and the precipitate Call upon Us, as the Province invaded, cannot answer any good Purpose at this Time, and therefore, we are now inclined to make a short Adjournment.

Signed

by Order of the House.

Isaac Norris Speaker.

In Assembly
24 March 1754.

On the same Day the Governor sent the following Message by the Secretary to the House.

Gentlemen,

My Desire of establishing Harmony between the Branches of the Legislature is such, that on this present Occasion I shall wave several Things personal to myself, which another Time I might think it incumbent on me to take Notice of, and proceed to tell You,

That had You examined with your usual Accuracy, the Gentlemen who by my Appointment attended your House for that Purpose on the 20th Instant, and compared their Testimony with the written Papers at several Times communicated to You, it would, I think, have appeared so clear to You, that the French have lately erected one or more Forts, far within the Limits of this Province, that nothing less than an actual Mensuration of the Distance could have made it more evident.

But, even taking it for granted, that the forementioned Encroachments are not within the Bounds of this Province, yet as I have been informed by the Governor of Virginia, that hostile

Attempts

Pennsylvania. 1754.

attempts have been made on Part of his Majesties Dominions, and have been called upon by him for the Assistance of this Province, to repel the Invaders; you must be sensible, it is equally your Duty, in either of these Cases to grant such Supplies as the present Exigency... of Affairs requires, and which, by his Majesties Orders, contained in Lord Holderness's Letter (and by you acknowledged to be equally binding on both of Us) I do now repeat to you the Necessity of.

I cannot therefore but be apprehensive that your Adjournment for so long a Time as to the sixth of May, will defeat any Measures that might have been taken for that Purpose for this Year; and consequently that his Majesties just Expectations from Us may be altogether frustrated.

However (if You persist in it) as the Right of Adjournment is a Privilege of your House, I must acquiesce therewith, and content myself with the Consciousness of having executed his..... Majesties Commands in the best Manner I have been able.

I am Sir
Your most humble Servant
James Hamilton

9th March 1754.

And then the House adjourned to the sixth of May next.

The Governor laid before the Board Two Letters received by Express from Governor Dinwiddie, whereby it appears that the Legislature of Virginia had given Ten Thousand Pounds & that Proclamations are issued for the Encouragement of all Persons who are disposed to enter into his Majesties Service on this Occasion and that he hopes their small Regiment will be at Alexandria, the Head of Patowmack River, by the Twentieth of this Month, and informed the Council, that since the Assembly declined doing any Thing till they should hear the Result of the Government of Virginia; He thought it absolutely necessary to convene them by Writ; and the Council concurring with his Honour in this Opinion, Writs issued for their Meeting on the Second of April next.

A Letter from the Governor of Virginia to Governor Hamilton.

Williamsburg February 23. 1754.

Sir

As I wrote you lately by an Express I desire to be referred thereto.

In pursuance our Assembly this Day, they have voted £10,000 for supporting the British Interest against the Invasions of the French &c. In consequence thereof I shall immediately..... endeavour to raise Six Companies of Men to march directly to Willis's Creek, the Head of Patowmack River, where I hope You will be made able by your House of Burgesses to give Us a handsome... Aid and Assistance.

I wrote to the Cherokees and Catawbas to send some of their Warriors to defend their hunting Grounds on the River Ohio, as they have formerly promised their Assistance, I am in hopes they will now comply that We may be able to make a Defence against the French and their Indians.

Next May I propose meeting some Chiefs of the different Nations of Indians as—— Winchester, where if I can be of any Service to You or your Colony freely command

Sir
Your most humble Servant
Robert Dinwiddie

The enclosed Proclamation will be general to all the Lines.

Govr Pennsylvania.

Virginia. ss.

By the Honourable Robert Dinwiddie Esquire His Majesties Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of this Dominion.

A Proclamation,

For Encouraging Men to enlist in his Majesties Service, for the Defence and Security of this Colony.

Whereas it is determined that a Fort be immediately built on the River Ohio, at the Forks of Mohongiala, to oppose any further Encroachments, or hostile attempts of the French, and the Indians in their Interest, and for the Security and Protection of his Majesties Subjects in this Colony, and as it is absolutely necessary that a sufficient Force should be raised to erect and support the same: For an Encouragement to all who shall voluntarily enter into the said Service, I do hereby notify and promise, by and with the advice and Consent of his Majesties Council of this Colony, that over and above their Pay, Two Hundred Thousand Acres of his Majesty the King of Great Britain's Lands, on the East Side of the River Ohio, within this Dominion (One Hundred Thousand Acres whereof to be contiguous to the said Fort; and the other Hundred Thousand Acres to be on, or near the River Ohio) shall be laid off and granted to such Persons, who by their voluntary Engagement, and good Behaviour in the said Service, shall deserve the same. And I further promise that the said Lands shall be divided amongst them immediately after the performance of the said Service, in a Proportion due to their respective Merit, as shall be represented to me by their Officers, and held and enjoyed by them without paying any Rights, and also free from the Payment of Quit Rents, for the Term of Fifteen Years. And I do appoint this Proclamation to be read and published at the Court Houses, Churches and Chapels in each County within this Colony, and that the Sheriffs take Care the same be done accordingly.

Given at the Council Chamber in Williamsburg, on the Nineteenth Day of February, in the Twenty Seventh Year of his Majesties Reign Annoque Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Four.

Robert Dinwiddie.

God save the King.

Letter from the Governor of Virginia to Governor Hamilton.

Williamsburg Virginia. March 1. 1754.

Sir,

Having an Occasion of sending an Express to New York, I trouble you with this to acquaint you, We are raising Forces to proceed to the Ohio, to prevent the Intentions of the French in settling those Lands.

I am in hopes our small Regiment will be at Alexandria, the Head of Potowmack River by the Twentieth of this Month, from thence they march to Willis's Creek, and so to the Ohio. But without the Aid of our neighbouring Colonies, We shall make but a small Figure; I have great Dependance on a considerable Number of your Palatines and Germans; I shall be glad to know the Supply granted by your Assembly, the Number of Forces, and when You think they will be at Willis's Creek.

I have ordered Six Months Provisions for those raised in this Colony, with Waggons to attend them on their March. I send You enclosed Major Washington's Journal to the Comandant of the French Forces on the Ohio.

Your answer on Return of this Express will oblige

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

Robert Dinwiddie.

Gov. of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania. 1754.

The Governor, agreable to the Councils Opinion at their last Meeting, wrote the following Letters to the Governor and Deputy Governor of Connecticut; and that the fullest Information might be obtained of the Disposition and real Designs of the People of that Province, He ..... prevailed on Mr. Armstrong, a Member of Assembly for Cumberland County and one of the Proprietary Surveyors, to go Express with them; instructing him to make all the Enquiry possible of the Number and Rank of the Persons engaged in this Scheme, and whether it be countenanced by the Government to satisfy all sorts of Persons of the true Situation of Wyominks, and of the several Prohibitions that have been by the Province published against settling it at the Instance of the Indians, who have a particular Attachment to that Place — to lay before them the certain Opposition they would meet with both from the Indians and this Government, and if they were too thick settled, to assure them if they would come in a peaceable manner of all due Encouragement from the Proprietaries.

Governor Hamilton's Letter to the Governor of Connecticut.

Sir.

I have received Information that a Party of your Inhabitants did some time ago pass thro the remote Parts of this Province in their Way to Wyominks upon Susquehannah River, and give out that they had made a Purchase of those Lands from the Mohock Indians, and they had your Authority to come and settle them, being included within the Boundaries of the Connecticut Charter, and offered their Titles to any who were disposed to purchase; and tho I have disregarded it as an idle Story is now confirmed by Persons of Character, who have been in Connecticut, and assure me that a large Number of your Inhabitants, tho without the Countenance or Knowledge of the Government, were actually preparing to remove in the Spring and settle some of the Pennsylvania Lands on Susquehannah, depending on their — Indian Title, and not designing to pay any Regard to the Rights of our Proprietaries, to apply to this Government for their Leave and Authority.

Tho I can scarce persuade myself that any considerable Number would engage in so rash and unjust a Proceeding, yet as it may be true tho highly improbable, I find myself ..... obliged to communicate to your Honour these Informations, and entreat You would be pleased to do all in your Power to prevent these People from putting their Design in Execution, assured as I am that if they make the Attempt, they will involve this Province in an endless Scene of Trouble and Confusion, and as they must expect Opposition, it may prove prejudicial to the Cause of the Colonies; if, as it is very probable, We shall be engaged in a War to repel the French, who have actually invaded this Province, and are now erecting Forts and driving away our Traders within its Limits, a Number of Strangers should come amongst us, and forcibly take Possession of our Lands, what can his Majesty or the other Colonies think, but that they are ..... Enemies to their Country, and design to hinder this Government from exerting its Force against the common Enemy by raising a Civil War within its Bowels.

I beseech your Honour further to consider, that the Six Nations will be highly offended if these Lands on Sesquehannah be overrun with White People, for they are their favourite Lands and reserved for their Hunting, and many of them live there, and they have the Faith of this Government solemnly and repeatedly plighted that no White People shall settle there; and if notwithstanding these publick Engagements they should now be settled, I will not answer for the Consequences, they may not only turn their Arms against the Settlers, but withdraw themselves from our Alliance, which might at this Time prove the Ruin of our Affairs, and involve the Colonies in endless Bloodshed and Expence:

I cannot conceive how the Inhabitants of Connecticut, whose Laws as well as Ours prohibit and render invalid all private Contracts with the Natives, could go in so clandestine a manner to

treat

treat with the Mohocks about these Lands, surely they are worthy of much Censure on many Accounts, but at this time it is peculiarly unfortunate, as it may create a Difference between the Mohocks and the Rest of the Six Nations, between whom there is an Agreement that the Mohocks shall have nothing to do with the Lands in Pennsylvania, nor take any Part of the Presents .... received for them, because they have already had more than their Share for other Lands, and therefore the Mohocks never come here on Treaties for Land.

But why will your Inhabitants chuse such a disorderly and dangerous Way of obtaining the Possession of Lands when they may have a Legal Settlement. There is a large Extent of Country in the Western Parts of this Province and That of Virginia vacant, and some of the best Lands in North America. If therefore any considerable Number of Families want to remove and are minded to settle these Lands, I make no doubt but our Proprietaries will be glad to give them good Encouragement, and if they enclose that I shall write in their Favour, I will chearfully do it at your Instance, and press them to return a speedy Answer, which may arrive here time enough for the Planters to go and view these Western Parts in the Winter, and prepare, if they find them agreable, for their Removal as early as the Season in the Spring will permit. Or if the Lands of Virginia shall be found more agreable, I will recommend them to that Government, who have lately made a Law for the Encouragement of Foreigners, and Both Governments will not fail to obtain for them the Friendship and kind Assistance of the Indians in those Parts, in Which soever of the Two they shall chuse to settle.

Should any of your Inhabitants be desirous to enquire of our Constitution and the Quality of the Lands in the unsettled Parts of the Province, they will receive an impartial Account of them from the Gentleman who is charged with this Letter, who is a Member of Assembly and Proprietary Surveyor over Susquehannah, and well acquainted with the Lands not yet appropriated; for these Reasons I have prevailed upon him to take this Journey, that he might answer any Questions, and give Satisfaction in all Points necessary to be known in this Matter, and I crave Leave to recommend him to your Honour as a Gentleman whose Relations may be received with the utmost Confidence in whatever he be desired to give an Account of.

I am persuaded your Honour will perceive the dangerous Consequences that must necessarily attend the Settlement of the Susquehannah Lands by your People in the manner they propose, under the present Circumstances of Affairs, that it cannot fail to exasperate the Indians, raise a Civil War in the Province and distract the Government at a Time when all the Attention I am master of may be wanted to conduct the momentous Concerns of the Publick, execute his Majesties Commands and preserve the Colonies from falling a Prey to our Enemies. Suffer me then to repeat my Request, that you would please to return your People at home, and prevail with them to hearken to sober and moderate Counsels, which in the End will prove more to their Advantage. I am with sincere Esteem

Your Honours

most obedient

humble Servant

James Hamilton

Philadelphia
4th March 1754.

The Honourable Roger Wolcott Esquire,

Governor Hamilton's Letter to the Deputy Governor of Connecticut.

Sir,

Hearing that a Number of the Inhabitants of Connecticut are preparing to come and settle some Lands in this Province in a forcible Manner, and being apprehensive that it may be of bad Consequence at a Time when we may probably be engaged in a War to repel the hostile Attempts of the French, I have wrote a Letter to Governor Wolcott on this Subject, and take the Freedom to enclose You a Copy of it, and request You will be pleased to give your Assistance in this Affair.

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Pennsylvania. 1754.

I have not the Honour of a personal acquaintance with You, yet I am told that the People have a great Esteem for You and Dependance on your Judgment; which I flatter myself will be favourable to this Application.

I should not doubt of Success if You would be pleased to join your Influence with his Honours in setting this matter in its true Light.

I beg Leave to recommend the Gentleman who delivers this Letter to your Notice and Civilities, who is well acquainted with our Constitution and the Quality of the vacant Lands within this Province; and well qualified to give your People Satisfaction in any Points they may want to know. I am with perfect Esteem and Regard

Your Honours
most obedient
humble Servant
James Hamilton.

Philadelphia
4th March 1754.

The Honourable Thomas Fitche Esquire.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 20th March 1754.
The Governor not attending disposed.

Present

John Penn, Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Letter from the Governor and Deputy Governor of Connecticut by Mr Armstrong who returned last night were read as follows

A Letter from Governor Wolcott to Governor Hamilton.

Windsor March 13th 1754.

Sir,

Yours of the fourth Instant is read, and I hope that by your Letter and my Discourse with Mr Armstrong I am now better informed than before of the State of the Susquehanah Lands

I am with Concern that We in these Parts of the Country hear continually News that the French are blocking up the Avenues of the Country North and West, and encroaching upon the Lands belonging to the Crown of Great Britain we fear that this is very much from a Backwardness in the Western Governments in promoting New Settlements, and there being now no unimproppriated Lands with Us, some of our Inhabitants, hearing of this Land at Susquehanah, and that it was North of the Grant made to Mr Penn and That to Virginia, are upon a Design of making a Purchase of the Indians, and hope to obtain a Grant of it from the Crown. This appearing to be a Design to promote his Majesties Interest and render the Country more defensible, we were all well Wishers to it.

But Mr Armstrong informs me that this Land is certainly within Mr Penn's Grant; ipse, I dont suppose our People had any Purpose to quarrel with Pennsylvania: indeed I dont know the Mind of every private Man, but I never heard our Leading Men express themselves so inclined.

Your Proposal to move Mr Penn and the Government of Virginia to promote New Settlements in the easiest manner, if effected, may turn the Eyes of our People that Way, and it is but reasonable that the Lands so far from the Sea and on the Frontiers should have the

Soldiers

Right Hon.ble

Williamsburg Virginia. Mar. 12th 1754.

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My last to Your Lordship was the 29th: of Jan.y by His Majesty's Sloop Speedwell Capt. Webb. I then transmitted You Maj.r Washington's Journal to the Commandant of the French Forces on the Ohio, & the Papers relating thereto, to the end they might be perused.

Our Assembly met the 11th of Jan.y with Reluctance, many Arguments & much trouble, they were prevail'd on to vote Ten Thousand Pounds for protecting our Frontiers; that Bill was so clogg'd with unreasonable Regulations, & Encroachments on the Prerogative, that I by no means could have given my Assent to it, if His Majesty's Service had not immediately called for a Supply, to assist the Expedition I have in View, to support His Majesty's just Right to the Lands on the Ohio.

They plead Precedents in raising Money in this Method which I found was so in my Predecessor's Time, in raising Men to go on an Expedition to Canada. This I urg'd should not be a Precedent, as it is contrary to His Majesty's Instructions. However as the Exigency of the present Affair could not be otherways supply'd, I was oblig'd to submit, & for that Reason I hope I shall stand Excused. The Bills are not fairly Engrossed, that I cannot now transmit them, but shall soon, & then make any further Observations thereon.

In Consequence of this Supply, I have appointed Officers to raise Six Companies of Volunteers, to be at Alexandria, the Head of Potomack River, by the 20th: of this Month They shall have my Orders to secure the Cannon, Stores, Provisions &c.a to the Ohio, to erect a Fort on the Fork of Monongahela, which commands that River, & part of the Ohio.

Lord Holderness has been pleased to order two of the Companies at New York, to be sent hither, & I have wrote to the neighbouring Colonies for their Aid & Assistance, which, with our friendly Indians, I am in hopes we shall make a tolerable Appearance on the Ohio this Summer to defeat the Designs of the French: I wish for a Regiment of Regulars, which would be of great Service, as the French threaten us with having a Thousand or 1500 Regulars at Log Town, besides Indians.

I have wrote to the Catawbas & Cherokees, two powerful Nations of Indians to send as many of their Warriors they possibly can to the Ohio, by the Middle of April; when I expect they will be joined by our Forces, to encourage them, I promised them a Present from their Father the King of Great Britain, & I hope for Your Lordships

Approbation.

Assistance to enable me to perform that Promise ... I will
thing in my Power to ascertain His Majesty's undoubted R
to the Lands on the Ohio, shall be done with Earnestness &
Dispatch.

Your Lordships Letter of the 18th Sept.r was forwarded
by Mr. Delancey Lieut.t Gov.r of New York; That Gentleman
appointed an Interview with the Five Nations at Alba
the Beginning of June next. I laid Your Letter before our
Assembly, as we are at great Expence on this Expedition, th
am to meet many Chiefs of the different Nations of Indians
Winchester in May next, they would not comply in regard
Comissioners to Albany with a View to; And indeed the Ch
I expect to meet at Winchester will be a very great Nation
Service, I think the Southern Indians are more to be court
than the Five Nations, being less in Number, &
very necessary to keep a strict Friendship with them all, wh
I shall constantly endeavour to support.

This Ship being Cleard for sailing obliges me in
to enlarge, but desire to assure You, that with great Resp
& due respect I am

My Right Hon.ble

Your Lordships most Obliged

obed.t & faithful Hble Ser.t

Addressed:

To the R.t Hon.ble Lords of Trade

Letter from Gov. Lindsidle
to the Board dated 12 March
1754. enforming them that
the Assembly have voted
£10,000 for defraying the
Charges relative to
Indian Affairs.

Read 15 May
Sent 21 —— } 1754.

N. 154.

Answer of
Col. Wm Johnson
to the Honorable
Adm. Clinton

Col. Wm Johnson's Answer to Adm. Clinton

Inclosed with this you have my opinion of some of our
Publick affairs. I must now crave the favour to lay before you
what relates to myself. I am not worth a shilling by the
Assembly since your departure, nor have reason to expect
any thing from them. So they can help acknowledging my
services and influence with the Indians, and we can be glad of
me, I continue to by joining my Interest with their Commissioners
at Albany, which is impossible for me to do differently from acting
the direction of Indian Affairs, this allowance from your Province
being not more than sufficient to bear my Charges with the French
Mohawks which they seem most fond of. My residence is
among our Indians and that I be perfectly with them would
fall under my Management which must proceed in, for as
as I am responsible I have been, while I expected a Recompense.
If the Ministry or Board of Trade should think it necessary from
the present Peaceful Situation of the Indians to put them upon
a more Proper Establishment for me, I shall think it an Honour
to be employed, and you may be assured that whatever Part
may be allotted for me to do in it shall be discharged with Integrity
and I doubt not but his Majesties Approbation and such Account

will put me above any other business, & undermy directions
& Command you were pleased to mention would be prejudicial
Honour, and would lay me under a great disadvantage with the Indians for
the Management of their affairs, & Plans as above will be framed
by the Ministry or Board of Trade concerning which I shall not
presume to give any particular opinion, but shall chearfully
proceed. The Nations seem to be of opinion, that by Sir William
as they are now circumstanced are the best for us. By French
can play against Encan the Indians & believe he that has most
in his Hands will be the winner in our land Disputes.
Hope Sir you will not forget Your kind Doctor Shuckburgh,
Choisandhas been a sufferer here from his Attendance &
is now more visible than ever since your departure he has
been up with me this Winter in the Mohawk Country, and I
must Acknowledge myself much obliged to him for time
to time for the many useful remarks he has furnished me
with relating to the Indians. If there should be any New
Plan concerted for the Management of Indian affairs I
should be extremely glad that he had some Appointment
in the direction as he is near Me, being thoroughly
Sensible from an intimate Acquaintance of many years
of his Ability & Integrity, besides has a middling Estate
in the Government. I fear I have tired your patience with

my long Silence, we desire leave to conclude with my best Respects
to Gen.l Gow, Gow Lady & Family.

Clan
C.P. with y.e sincerest
Attachment. Gow —

Wm Dodd
Humble Servant

Wm Dodd

Newyork March
the 12:th 1754 ——

and praying the Interposition of that Government to stop the Departure of their People on such a Dangerous Enterprize as this, least together with the Concern raised in every Breast by the Unhappiness of a foreign Invasion, the Colonies should have the additional Affliction of seeing a Civil War commence in the Bowels of Two of their most Populous Provinces; and further, thought it would be proper to send Conrad Weiser to the Six Nations and those of Wyomink to put them upon their Guard against those Proceedings.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 12th of March, 1754.

The Governor still indisposed.

PRESENT:

John Penn,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	} Esquires.
Robert Strettell,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

MEMORANDUM.

On the Fourth Instant a Message was brought by two Members to the Governor, desiring to know if he had any thing further to to lay before them in relation to the Western Bounds of this Province, and also if he had received any late Advices from the Governor of Virginia. And the Governor made Answer that he would send down to the House the several Evidences relating to the Western Bounds of Pennsylvania, which convinced him that the Hostilities mentioned in his Message were committed within this Province, and he made no doubt but they would be as convincing to the House, and further, that he had not received any Advices from Virginia since those he communicated to the House; and accordingly the Governor having received from Mr. Peters, Mr. West, Mr. Montour, and Mr. Patten, their several Informations in Writing, he laid them before the House, together with Mr. Patten's Map, the French Map of Monsieur Bellin bound in Charlevoix's History of Canada, a Certificate of Mr. Scull the Surveyor General, and Mr. Grew the Mathematical Professor in the Academy, of the Extent of Five Degrees of Longitude in Latitude Forty, amounting to two hundred and sixty-five Miles, and likewise a calculation founded upon and drawn up by those several Informations, whence it appeared that from Philadelphia to the River Ohio on a due West Course the Distance did not exceed.

His Honour further order'd the Secretary and the other Gentlemen to attend the House in order to explain to them the Draughts and Calculations, and to give them all the Light possible into this Affair, that they might obtain all manner of Satisfaction as to the

Truth of the French Forts and the River Ohio being within the Limits of this Province.

The Secretary was likewise order'd to deliver this Verbal Message along with the Papers, vizt:

"Sir:

"The Governor now sends down to the House the Grounds on which he founded the Assertion in his Message, that Hostilities are committed by the French within the Limits of his Government, and he has directed me to attend with the Vouchers, Draughts, and some Evidences to the same, in case the House should encline to examine them.

"The Calculation of the Distance of the Ohio from Philadelphia according to the several Informations now given to the Governor is as follows:

"In Latitude Forty a Degree of Longitude is Fifty-Three Statute Mills, so that Five Degrees make two hundred and sixty-five miles (265).

	Miles.
"The Length of the Temporary Line from Philadelphia measured is - - - - - - -	144
"A Meridian Line drawn from the End of the Temporary Line cuts Allegheny Path.	
"At the three Springs, from which Place by Mr. West, Mr. Montour, and Mr. Patten's Account, on a streight Line to Laurel Hill is - - - - - -	52
["On a Meridian from Laurel Hill is Weningo Town at about 34 Miles Distance according to Mr. Montour; and this is agreable to Mr. Patten, Mr. Montour, and Mr. West, Who all agree that it is 34 Miles from Laurel Hill to Shanoppin, and from Shanoppin to Weningo 34 Miles by what Mr. Patten & Mr. West have heard, and by the Estimate of Mr. Montour's Travelling.] From Laurel Hill to Shanoppin on the River Ohio is - - - - - -	34
"From the River Ohio to the Western Boundary of the Province is - - - - - - -	35
	265

"From which Account our Province extends thirty-five Miles to the Westward of Log's Town; And when the Difference between Superficial Measure and Horizontal is computed, as the Course West runs over such vast Mountains and many deep Valleys, it is certain our Bounds must extend much farther.

"By a careful Observation Log's Town lies in 40^{d} 27° North.

"N. B.—The French Fort on Riviere aux Bœufs lies North from Weningo about thirty Miles."

Information of Mr. Richard Peters to the Governor.

"May it please the Governor:

"Richard Peters informs the Governor that in May, 1739, the Temporary Line was run by Benjamin Eastburn and other Surveyors, who as well as the Chain Carriers were upon their Oaths or Affirmations, and that the Line was run to the Kittochtinny Hills, in Cumberland County, about three miles West from Philip David's Plantation.

"That from the Tangent Line of the Circle of Newcastle to Sasquehannah River is twenty-five Miles, and from the Eastern Bank of that River to the Termination of the Line eighty-eight Miles—in all one hundred and thirteen Miles.

"That he the said Richard Peters has been at Aucquick and went from thence to Philip David's, and by the best Observation he could make, and he was very curious in enquiring, he verily believes that a Place called Aucquick Gap is in the Meridian of the End of the Temporary Line, but * * * * * * * * * * * * * may be certain that the Place called the three Springs is to the Eastward of the Meridian * and consequently no more than one hundred and thirteen Statute Miles Superficial Measure West from the Tangent of the Circle of Newcastle, the South Boundary of the Province.

"Richard Peters further informs the Governor that by the Accounts of Mr. Weiser, Mr. West, Mr. John Harris, Mr. Hugh Crawford, Mr. Andrew Montour, and Mr. John Patten, which he has to produce, the Distance by Computation from the three Springs to Ohio is * * * * * * * * * * * * * * the Ray's Town Road and * * * * * * * * * * * * * * the Frank's Town Road, tho' the Road in Twenty Miles at some Places does not make above Ten Westing, and that it is very crooked, sometimes going to the Southward and sometimes to the Northward of a strait Line, and he verily believes from the Draughts he has seen and from the Information of the above Persons it is not more than eighty-six Miles Statue from the Three Springs to Shanoppin.

"He further says that he verily believes the Temporary Line if extended will strike the River Patowmack near the Northern Bend where Charles Poke did live, and if extended to the River Ohio he verily believes it will pass that River thirty-five Miles to the South of Log's Town, and his Reason for saying so is because Shanoppin, by an Observation taken the sixteenth of June, 1752, is forty Degrees twenty-seven Minutes North Latitude, according to Mr. West's Account, who was present when the Virginia Commissioners made the Observation by a Quadrant of eighteen Inches Radius.

"Note—Philadelphia is thirty-one Miles to the East of the Tangent.

"Note that the Temporary Line is superficial not horizontal Measure, and that by a Certificate of Mr. Grew and Mr. Scull, a Degree of Longitude in Latitude Forty is fifty-three Statute Miles.

"Upon the whole it is very clear that the Western Bounds of the Province extend thirty-five Miles West beyond Log's Town, and that Weningo and the Riviere aux Bœufs, where the Forts are built, being to the East of Log's Town, are consequently so much more within the Province.

"I am Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"RICHARD PETERS."

—

Information of Mr. William West to the Governor.

"Sir:

"Agreeable to your Request I herewith send You the Latitude of Shanoppin's Town as taken by Col. Fry the sixteenth of June, 1752. I likewise send You the computed Miles from the three Springs to Shanoppin's Town. I begin there as I take it to be near the same Meridian with the Big Cove, or rather a little to the Eastward of it. You will please to observe that the Road is very crooked, for there being many Hills. We were obliged to make many Windings to come at proper Places to cross them.

"About a Mile from Shanoppin's Town Sun's Meridian altitude 16th June, 1752 - - - - - -	72	54°
	90	
"Zenith Distance - - - - - - - -	17	6
"Sun's Declination - - - - - - -	23	21
"Latitude of Shanoppin's Town - - - -	40	27

"From the three Springs to Sideling Hill - -	7	Miles.
" " to Juniata - - -	19	"
" " to Garret Pendergrass' or Rays Town - - -	12	"
" " to the Foot of Allegheny Hill	15	"
" " to Edmund's Swamp the other side of Allegheny Hill	12	"
" " to Kekinny Paulins - -	10	"
" " to Loyalhannin - - -	20	"
" " to Shanoppin's Town -	50	"
	145	Miles.

"I went to the Log's Town in Company with Capt. Thomas Mc-

Kee, Mr. John Carson, and other Indian Traders, from whom I had the within computed distances, which in many Places I think are estimated more Miles than they would measure, and in some Places We travelled many Miles to make a few Westing, particularly from the Shawonese Cabbins to Kekinny Paulins, which altho' it is computed near thirty Miles I do not think would make Ten Miles Westing.

"I am Your Honour's most-humble Servant,

"WM. WEST."

The Examination of Andrew Montour and John Patten, taken before the Governor.

"Andrew Montour on his Examination says that he has been three times from Log's Town to Weningo on Foot, and came there the Second night every time with Ease; that one time was in the Month of March, when his Mother who was blind rode on Horseback and he led the Horse on Foot all the way, and yet was at Weningo the Second Day before night; That he believes it to be sixty miles by the Road which lyes Near North-East from Log's Town; That a River called by the French Riviere aux Bœufs, whose Course is South from its head, which is near Lake Erie, runs into the Ohio at Weningo; That the French have lately built Two Forts, One on that River thirty-five Miles higher up than Weningo, and the other on a Branch of it at Ten miles distance from the other Fort. And the Reason of his Belief is, that his Cousin Nicholas, who lives at Weningo, told him and Mr. Patten that he has frequently gone from Weningo in one Day to both the French Forts.

"Mr. Montour says further, that Weningo is due North from Laurel Hill, and about the same Distance as Shanoppin is from Laurel Hill, vizt Fifty Miles by the Road.

"Mr. Patten says he rode in four Days from Ohio the Frank's Town Road to Peter Shearer's, about four miles from Sasquehannah River, in June, 1750, which by the Traders Computation is two hundred and twenty miles.

"Mr. Patten says that John Harris affirmed to him that he rode from Ray's Town to his own House in two Days, which by the Traders Computation is one hundred and twenty-six miles.

"Both Mr. Montour and Mr. Patten say that the Road from the three Springs to Ohio is very crooked, going in many Places to the North, and in many to the South of a Strait Line, and that Mr. Patten having the Governor's Instructions to observe the Courses and Distances of the Roads, they used the greatest Exactness in their Power, and do verily believe that the Distance from the three Springs to the River Ohio is not, upon a Strait Line, more than

eighty-six miles, whatever it is less. All which is submitted to your Honour by

"Your Honour's most obedient Servants,

his
"ANDREW ⋈ MONTOUR.
mark
"JOHN PATTEN."

On the ninth Instant the Governor received the following Message by Two Members, who acquainted him "that the House proposed to adjourn to the sixth Day of May next if he had no objection thereto; and that they would at that Time provide for the Expence of Commissioners to be sent to Albany, and make a small Present to be delivered by them to the Indians of the Six Nations in Behalf of this Province." To which the Governor was pleased to say, "that he desired they would continue sitting, and that he would send down an Answer to their Message early in the Afternoon:"

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"We are willing to hope the several Parts of the Governor's Message of the second Instant which neither relate to the Royal Orders under our immediate Consideration nor to this House, are such as on Reflection he will think not altogether suited to preserve that Harmony between the several Branches of the Legislature so necessary at all times and especially on this important Occasion; but as the Governor in order to obtain this good End professes himself ready to contribute every Thing in his Power consistent with his Honour and the Trust reposed in him, we shall most chearfully join with him in this desireable Purpose, so far as the Preservation of our Rights and the Duty We owe our Constituents can vindicate our Conduct. Nevertheless, as the affairs of our Indian Allies and our Neighbouring Colonies continue in the same Situation with Regard to Us as when We sent our Message of the Twenty-Seventh of February last, we must in a great Measure refer to our Sentiments at that time. We then were of Opinion and still think the safest Method for Us to conduct ourselves in Obedience to the Royal Commands (equally binding on the Governor and Us) would be to recur to Lord Holdernesse's Letter, in which only those Orders were precisely set forth, wherever we judged they differed from the Governor's Sentiments or the Words of his Message to the House on that Occasion; yet this is unhappily imputed to Us as an Endeavour to elude their Force, and a pretence in some Measure for not complying with them, altho' as the Governor is pleased to say it was impossible we could have understood that Message in any other Light than as referring to Lord

Holdernesse's Letter then lying on our Table; and from this supposed Misconduct of ours, the Governor, as we presume, has suddenly altered the whole Connection between Us and his Majestie's Colony of Virginia.

"As Governor Dinwiddie had laid before his Assembly the Earl of Holdernesse's Letter, sent, as we presume, in the same Terms to all the Colonies on the Continent, we judged it most prudent to wait till the Assembly of that Government had enabled him to act in Obedience to the Royal Commands, especially as they had that Letter under their Consideration from the first of November last, as appears by the Journal of their House of Burgesses now before Us; but we are now called upon as Principals, and the Governor is pleased to inform Us that he has undoubted Assurance that Part of his Majestie's Dominions within this Government is at this Time invaded by the Subjects of a Foreign Prince, who have erected Forts within the same, and calls upon Us pursuant to his Majestie's Orders in the present Emergency to grant such Supplies as may enable him to resist those hostile Attempts, and repel Force by Force; but as it appears to Us the Governor is enjoined by the Royal Orders not to act as a Principal beyond the undoubted Limits of his Government, and as by the Papers and Evidences sent down and referred to by the Governor, those Limits have not been clearly ascertained to our Satisfaction, we fear the altering our Connections with his Majestie's Colony of Virginia, and the precipitate Call upon Us as the Province invaded, cannot answer any good Purpose at this Time, and therefore we are now enclined to make a short Adjournment.

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"In Assembly, 9th March, 1754."

On the same Day the Governor sent the following Message by the Secretary to the House:

"Gentlemen:

"My Desire of establishing Harmony between the Branches of the Legislature is such that on the present Occasion I shall wave several Things personal to myself, which another Time I might think it incumbent on me to take Notice of, and proceed to tell You,—

"That had You examined with your usual Accuracy the Gentlemen who by my Appointment attended your House for that Purpose on the sixth Instant and compared their Testimony with the written Papers at several Times communicated to You, it would I think have appeared so clear to You that the French have lately erected one or more Forts far within the Limits of this Province, that nothing less than an actual Mensuration of the Distance could have made it more evident.

"But even taking it for granted that the forementioned Encroachments are not within the Bounds of this Province, yet as I have been informed by the Governor of Virginia that hostile Attempts have been made on Part of his Majestie's Dominions, and have been called upon by him for the Assistance of this Province to repel the Invaders, You must be sensible it is equally your Duty in either of these Cases to grant such Supplies as the present Exigency of Affairs requires, and which by his Majestie's Orders contained in Lord Holdernesse's Letter (and by you acknowledged to be equally binding on both of Us), I do now repeat to you the Necessity of.

"I cannot, therefore, but be apprehensive that your Adjournment for so long a Time as to the Sixth of May will defeat any Measures that might have been taken for that Purpose for this Year, and consequently that his Majestie's just Expectations from us may be altogether frustrated.

"However (if you persist in it), as the Right of Adjournment is a Privilege of your House, I must acquiesce therewith and content myself with the Consciousness of having executed his Majestie's Commands in the best Manner I have been able.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"9th March, 1754."

And then the House adjourned to the Sixth of May next.

The Governor laid before the Board Two Letters received by Express from Governor Dinwiddie, whereby it appears that the Legislature of Virginia had given Ten Thousand Pounds, that Proclamations are issued for the Encouragement of all Persons who are disposed to enter into his Majestie's Service on this Occasion, and that he hopes their small Regiment will be at Alexandria, the Hea[d] of Patowmack River, by the Twentieth of this Month, and informed the Council that since the Assembly declined doing any Thing till they should know the Result of the Government of Virginia, He thought it absolutely necessary to convene them by Writ, and the Council concurring with his Honour in this Opinion, Writts issued for their Meeting on the Second of April next.

—

A Letter from the Governor of Virginia to Governor Hamilton.

"WILLIAMSBURG, Feb[y] 23d, 1754.

"Sir:

"As I wrote You lately by an Express, I desire to be referred thereto.

"I Prorogued our Assembly this Day, they have voted £10,000 for supporting the British Interest against the Invasions of the French, &[c]. In consequence thereof I shall immediately endeavour

to raise six Companies of Men to march directly to Wills' Creek, the head of Patowmack river, where I hope You will be made able by Your House of Burgesses to give us a handsome Aid and Assistance.

"I wrote to the Cherokees & Catawbas to send some of their Warriors to defend their hunting Grounds on the river Ohio, as they have formerly promis'd their assistance. I am in Hopes they will now comply, that we may be able to make a Defence against the French & their Indians.

"Next May I propose meeting some Chiefs of the different Nations of Indians at Winchester; where if I can be of any Service to You or Your Colony, freely command,

"Sir, Your most humble Servant,

"ROB^{T}. DINWIDDIE.

"The inclos'd Proclamation will be general to all the Forces.

"Gov. Pennsylvania."

"VIRGINIA, ss:

"*By the Honourable ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Esquire, His Majestic's Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of this Dominion:*

"A PROCLAMATION,

"For Encouraging Men to enlist in his Majestie's Service for the Defence and Security of this Colony:

"*Whereas*, it is determined that a Fort be immediately built on the River Ohio, at the Fork of Mohongialo, to oppose any further Encroachments or hostile Attempts of the French and the Indians in their Interest, and for the Security and Protection of his Majestie's Subjects in this Colony, and as it is absolutely necessary that a sufficient Force should be raised to erect and support the same, For an Encouragement to all who shall voluntarily enter into the said Service, I do hereby notify and promise by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majestie's Council of this Colony, that over and above their Pay, Two Hundred Thousand Acres of his Majesty the King of Great Britain's Lands on the East side of the River Ohio, within this Dominion (One Hundred Thousand Acres whereof to be contiguous to the said Fort, and the other Hundred Thousand Acres to be on or near the River Ohio), shall be laid off and granted to such Persons who by their voluntary Engagement and good Behaviour in said Service shall deserve the same. And I further promise that the said Lands shall be divided amongst them immediately after the Performance of the said Service, in a Proportion due to their respective Merit, as shall be represented to me by their Officers, and held and enjoyed by them without paying any Rights, and also free from the Payment of Quit Rents for the Term of Fifteen Years. And I do appoint this Proclamation to be read and published at the

Court Houses, Churches, and Chapels in each County within this Colony, and that the Sheriffs take Care the same be done accordingly.

"Given at the Council Chamber in Williamsburg, on the Nineteenth Day of February, in the Twenty-Seventh Year of his Majestie's Reign, Annoque Domini, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Four.

"ROBERT DINWIDDIE.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

—

A Letter from Governor of Virginia to Governer Hamilton.

"WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia, March 1st, 1754.

"Sir:

"Having an Occasion of sending an Express to New York, I trouble You with this to acquaint You we are raising Forces to proceed to the Ohio to prevent the Intentions of the French in settling those Lands.

"I am in Hopes our small Regiment will be at Alexandria, the Head of Patowmack River, by the twentieth of this Month, from thence they march to Wills' Creek, & so to the Ohio. But without the aid of our neighbouring Colonies we shall make but a small Figure. I have great Dependance on a considerable number of Your Palatines & Germans. I shall be glad to know the supply granted by Your Assembly, the number of Forces, & when You think they will be at Wills' Creek.

"I have ordered six Months' Provisions for those raised in this Colony, with Waggons to attend them on their March. I send You enclosed Major Washington's Journal to the Comandant of the French Forces on the Ohio.

"Your Answer on return of this Express will oblige,

"Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant,

"ROBT. DINWIDDIE.

"Govr of Pennsylvania."

The Governor, agreeable to the Council's Opinion at their last Meeting, wrote the following Letters to the Governor and Deputy Governor of Connecticut; and that the fullest Information might be obtained of the Disposition and real Designs of the People of that Province He prevailed on Mr. Armstrong, a Member of Assembly for Cumberland County and one of the Proprietary Surveyors, to go Express with them, instructing him to make all the Enquiry possible of the Number and Rank of the Persons engaged in this Scheme, and whether it be countenanced by the Government—to

satisfy all sorts of Persons of the true situation of Wyomink, and of the several Prohibitions that have been by the Province published against settling it at the Instance of the Indians, who have a particular Attachment to that Place—to lay before them the certain Opposition they would meet with both from the Indians and this Government—and if they were too thick settled to assure them if they would come in a peaceable manner of all due Encouragement from the Proprietaries.

—

Governor Hamilton's Letter to the Governor of Connecticut.

"Sir:

"I have received Information that a Party of your Inhabitants did some time ago pass thro' the remote Parts of this Province in their Way to Wyomink upon Sasquehanna River, and gave out that they had made a Purchase of those Lands from the Mohock Indians, and they had your authority to come and settle them, being included within the Boundaries of the Connecticut Charter, and offered their Titles to any who were disposed to purchase; and this, tho' I have disregarded it as an idle Story, is now confirmed by Persons of Character who have been in Connecticut and assure me that a large Number of your Inhabitants, tho' without the Countenance or knowledge of the Government, were actually preparing to remove in the Spring and settle some of the Pennsylvania Lands on Sasquehanna, depending on their Indian Title and not designing to pay any Regard to the Rights of our Proprietaries or apply to this Government for their Leave and Authority.

"Tho' I can scarce persuade myself that any considerable Number would engage in so rash and unjust a Proceeding, yet as it may be true, tho' highly improbable, I find myself obliged to communicate to Your Honour these Informations, and entreat You would be pleased to do all in your Power to prevent these People from putting their Design into execution, assured as I am that if they make the Attempt they will involve this Province in an endless Scene of Trouble and Confusion, and as they must expect Opposition it may prove prejudicial to the Cause of the Colonies; if as it is very probable We shall be engaged in a War to repel the French, who have actually invaded this Province and are now erecting Forts and driving away our Traders within its Limits, a Number of Strangers should come amongst Us and forcibly take Possession of our Lands, what can his Majesty or the other Colonies think but that they are Enemies to their Country, and design to hinder this Government from exerting its Force against the common Enemy by raising a Civil War within its Bowels.

"I beseech your Honour further to consider that the Six Nations will be highly offended if these Lands on Sasquehannah be overun

with White People, for they are their favourite Lands and reserved for their Hunting, and many of them live there, and they have the Faith of this Government solemnly and repeatedly plighted that no White People shall settle there; and if, notwithstanding these publick Engagements, they should now be setled, I will not answer for the Consequences; they may not only turn their Arms against the Setlers but withdraw themselves from our Alliance, which might at this Time prove the Ruin of our Affairs and involve the Colonies in endless Bloodshed and Expence.

"I cannot conceive how the Inhabitants of Connecticut, whose Laws as well as Ours prohibit and render invalid all private Contracts with the Natives, could go in so clandestine a manner to treat with the Mohocks about these Lands; surely they are worthy of much Censure on many Accounts, but at this time it is peculiarly unfortunate as it may create a Difference between the Mohocks and the rest of the Six Nations, between whom there is an Agreement that the Mohocks shall have nothing to do with the Lands in Pennsylvania, nor take any Part of the Presents received for them, because they have already had more than their Share for other Lands, and therefore the Mohocks never come here on Treaties for Land.

"But why will your Inhabitants chuse such a disorderly and dangerous Way of obtaining the Possession of Lands when they may have a legal Settlement? There is a large Extent of Country in the Western Parts of this Province and That of Virginia vacant, and some of the best Lands in North America. If, therefore, any considerable Number of Families want to remove and are minded to settle these Lands, I make no doubt but our Proprietaries will be glad to give them good Encouragement, and if they encline that I shall write in their Favour I will cheerfully do it at your Instance, and press them to return a speedy Answer, which may arrive here time enough for the Planters to go and view these Western Parts in the Winter, and prepare, if they find them agreable, for their Removal as early as the Season in the Spring will permit.

"Or if the Lands of Virginia shall be found more agreeable, I will recommend them to that Government, who have lately made a Law for the Encouragement of New Setlers, and Both Governments will not fail to obtain for them the Friendship and kind Assistances of the Indians in those Parts, in whichsoever of the Two they shall chuse to settle.

"Should any of your Inhabitants be desirous to enquire of our Constitution and the Quality of the Lands in the uncultivated Parts of the Province, they will receive an impartial Account of them from the Gentleman who is charged with this Letter, who is a Member of Assembly, any ye Proprietary Surveyor over Sasquehannah, and well acquainted with the Lands not yet appropriated; for these Reasons I have prevailed upon him to take this Journey, that he might answer any Questions and give Satisfaction in all

Points necessary to be known in this Matter, and I crave Leave to recommend him to your Honour as a Gentleman whose Relations may be received with the utmost Confidence in whatever he be desired to give an Account of.

"I am persuaded your Honour will perceive the dangerous Consequences that must needs attend the Settlement of the Sasquehannah Lands by your People in the manner they propose, under the present Circumstances of Affairs, that it cannot fail to exasperate the Indians, raise a Civil War in the Province, and distract the Government at a Time when all the Attention I am Master of may be wanted to conduct the momentous Concerns of the Publick, execute his Majestie's Commands, and preserve the Colonies from falling a Prey to our Enemies. Suffer me, then, to repeat my Request that you would please to detain your People at home, and prevail with them to hearken to sober and moderate Counsels, which in the End will prove more to their advantage.

"I am, with sincere Esteem,

"Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"PHILADELPHIA, 4th March, 1754.

"The Honourable ROGER WOLCOTT, Esquire."

Governor Hamilton's Letter to the Deputy Governor of Connecticut.

"Sir:

"Hearing that a Number of the Inhabitants of Connecticut are preparing to come and settle some Lands in this Province in a forcible manner, and being apprehensive that it may be of bad Consequence at a Time when we may probably be engaged in a War to repel the hostile Attempts of the French, I have wrote a Letter to Governor Wolcott on this Subject, and take the Freedom to enclose You a Copy of it, and request you will be pleased to give your Assistance in this Affair.

"I have not the Honour of a personal Acquaintance with You, yet I am told that the People have a great Esteem for You and Dependence on your Judgment, which I flatter myself will be favourable to this Application.

"I should not doubt of Success if You would be pleased to join your Influence with his Honour's in setting this matter in its true Light.

"I beg Leave to recommend the Gentleman who delivers this Letter to your Notice and Civilities, who is well acquainted with our Constitution and the Quality of the vacant Lands within this Province, and well qualified to give your People Satisfaction in any

Points they may want to know. I am with perfect Esteem and Regard,

"Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"Philadelphia, 4th March, 1754.

"The Honourable THOMAS FITCHE, Esquire."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday the 20th March, 1754.

The Governor still indisposed.

PRESENT:

John Penn, Benjamin Shoemaker, Richard Peters, Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Letter from the Governor and Deputy Governor of Connecticut by Mr. Armstrong, who returned last night, were read as follows:

A Letter from Governor Wolcott to Governor Hamilton.

"WINDSOR, March 13th, 1754.

"Sir:

"Yours of the fourth Instant is read, and I hope that by your Letter and my Discourse with Mr. Armstrong I am now better informed than before of the State of the Sasquehanah Lands.

"It is with Concern that We in these Parts of the Country hear continually News that the French are blocking up the Avenues of the Country North and West, and encroaching upon the Lands belonging to the Crown of Great Britain. We fear that this is very much from a backwardness in the Western Governments in promoting New Settlements; and there being now no unapropriated Lands with us, some of our Inhabitants hearing of this Land at Sasquehanah and that it was North of the Grant made to Mr. Penn, and That Virginia are upon a Design of making a Purchase of the Indians and hope to obtain a Grant of it from the Crown. This appearing to be a Design to promote his Majestie's Interest and render the Country more defencible, we were all well Wishers to it.

"But Mr. Armstrong informs me that this Land is certainly within Mr. Penn's Grant; if so I dont suppose our People had any Purpose to quarrel with Pennsylvania; indeed I dont know the Mind of every private Man, but I never heard our Leading Men express themselves so inclined.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 20th March 1754.
The Governor still indisposed.

Present

John Penn, Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Letter from the Governor and Deputy Governor of Connecticut by Mr Armstrong who returned last night were read as follows.

A Letter from Governor Wolcott to Governor Hamilton.

Windsor March 13th 1754.

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It is with Concern that We in these Parts of the Country hear continually News that the French are blocking up the Avenues of the Country North and West, and encroaching upon the Lands belonging to the Crown of Great Britain; we fear that this is very much from a Backwardness in the Western Governments in promoting New Settlements, and there being now no unimpropriated Lands with Us, some of our Inhabitants, hearing of this Land at Sasquehanah, and that it was North of the Grant made to Mr Penn and That to Virginia, are upon a Design of making a Purchase of the Indians, and hope to obtain a Grant of it from the Crown. This appearing to be a Design to promote his Majesties Interest and render the Country more defencible, we were all well Wishers to it.

But Mr Armstrong informs me that this Land is certainly within Mr Penn's Grant; if so, I dont suppose our People had any Purpose to quarrel with Pennsylvania: indeed I don't know the Mind of every private Man, but I never heard our Leading Men express themselves so enclined.

Your Proposal to move Mr Penn and the Government of Virginia to promote New Settlements in the easiest manner, if effected, may turn the Eyes of our People that Way; and it is but reasonable that the Lands so far from the Sea and on the Frontiers should have the

Settlers

Settlers on it encouraged in my Opinion; You may serve your King, your Proprietaries and your Country in promoting this Scheme, and this may probably draw many of our People to settle in those Parts, which I hope will prove orderly and industrious Inhabitants, and being used to War, may be of good Service on that Account.

This seems to be the time, if ever, to promote so good a Work; and if omitted may prove our last Opportunity.

We in. New England from our Beginning have often had hard Wars with the French and Indians, and have hitherto made our Part good with them; it is probable the War will enkindle in the Western Parts, and You must come to a Push with the French which shall be the Masters of the Country, in which case, every man will be serviceable according to his Strength of Body and Resolution of Mind; the Resolution of the Soldier will be very much in fighting for his Country according to his Interest in it, and if I must go out, let me have an Army of Freeholders or Freeholders Sons.

I have seen an Instance of this in the Siege of Louisburg; We had but about 3700 men, and before We had done about 700 of these were lost or Invalids. With these We beat the French at our Landing and beset the City. The Walls were 34 30 and at some Places 20 Feet high from the Bottom of the Trench, and built so regular that one or more Cannon swept every Face of it. The Trench was 11 Feet deep and ten Rods wide; without is a Picket and Glacis, on the Walls were mounted 101 Cannon and 78 Swivels. in the Town were Five Mortars and all Warlike Stores. besides this We had the Grand Battery and Island Battery to subdue. in the Town were 2100 Men and Lads able to bear Arms. Before these Walls We lay 49 Days hourly expecting an Army the Enemy had raised to take Annapolis would be upon our Backs. We advanced our Battery within Forty Rods of their Walls, and as We accounted received from them 9000 great Shot and Bombs. The Ground about our Battery was plowed like a Corn Field, yet I never heard a Man in this Time (excepting those in the Regular) move to go home, till We had taken the City. and We took it but how God gave Us the Victory but humanly speaking, it was because our Soldiers were Freeholders and Freeholders Sons, and had a Sense of Interest in the Country and Liberty, and the Men within the Walls were mercenary Troops.

Whenever the War commences with you, I think a small Army of such Men well appointed and disciplined will soon convince the French of their Error in provoking and insulting of You; I think a Few of them will be more than a match for a Multitude of their Plebes brought up in Slavery and have nothing to fight for of their own.

This brings to mind a Story a Gentleman told me, that he went in to see his Negroe Man then dying, and seeing him just gone, said to him, Cuffee, you are just going, are you not sorry? No, says the Fellow, master, the Loss wont be mine.

Pardon the Length of this Letter, and be assured that I am

Your Honours
most obedient
very humble Servant
R. Wolcott.

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire.

A Letter from Governor Fitch to Governor Hamilton.

Hartford 13. March 1754.

Sir,

As I am favoured with the Honour of Yours of the Fourth Instant by Mr. Armstrong at a Time I am obliged to attend Publick Business from Home, I can only just signify that I have perused Yours to Governor Wolcott as well as that to me, do well approve of the Notice You take of

Pennsylvania. 1754.

of the attempt some of the People of this Colony are making and the Concern You manifest for the general Peace of the British Interest and his Majesties Service, which so much depend on a regular Proceeding in such affairs. I know nothing of anything done by the Government to countenance such a Procedure as You intimate and I conclude is going on among some of our People. – I shall in all proper Ways use my Interest to prevent every thing that may tend any way to prejudice the general Good of these Governments; and am enclined to believe this wild Scheme of our People will come to nothing, tho I cant certainly say. I heartily desire a good Harmony may subsist between your Government and Others, and This in particular. I need not if had time enlarge, seeing the worthy Bearer of yours (with whose Conversation and Account concerning those affairs I was well satisfied and delighted) has I suppose received from Governor Wolcott a more full and satisfactory Answer to your Honour. You'll please to command me further in this or in any other affair You shall think proper; all which shall be duly honoured by him, may it please your Honour, who is

Your Honours
obedient humble Servant
Tho! Fitch.

Governor Hamilton.

Mr Armstrong reports, that the People of Connecticut are most earnestly and seriously determined to make a Settlement on the Sasquehannah within the Latitude of their Province, relying on the Words of their Grant which extend to the South Sea, provided they can succeed in a Purchase of those Lands from the Six Nations, which they are now attempting by the means of Col. Johnson and Mr Lydius of Albany; having subscribed a thousand Pieces of Eight for that Purpose, each giving Four Dollars for what they call a Right. That some principal Persons in the Government covertly encourage them, and have paid their Contributions; but he believes they will not be able to procure the open Countenance of the Government, nor any publick Act in favour of the Project. That many were staggered at his acquainting them with the Situation of Wyoming, and the Injunctions that had issued against settling it, at the Instance of the Indians, and the Determination of the Government of Pennsylvania to make all the Opposition possible – and he has reason to think he ... opened the Eyes of abundance of People, which may have very good Effects.

His Governor directed the Secretary to inform the Council, that since receiving the Letter of the Governor and Deputy Governor of Connecticut and the Report of Mr Armstrong He has by Express from Justice Brodhead and Mr Parsons been informed, that several People in the County of Northampton had purchased Connecticut Rights, and expected their Agents this ... Spring to settle and put them into Possession of the Sasquehannah Lands, and that they desired his Advice what they as Justices ought to do: He had therefore thought it proper to apply to the Attorney General for his Opinion, which he had given, and his Honour had sent it to the Justices to be read in open Court, and along with it a Letter from the Chief Justice which he, having had several Informations given him by the Inhabitants of the County of ..... Northampton to the same Effect as Mr Brodhead's and Mr Parsons's Informations, had thought proper to send to them on the Occasion.

Case for the Attorney General.

It appears by the Informations of Daniel Brodhead and William Parsons Two of his ..... Majesties Justices of the Peace for the County of Northampton, that many Persons the Natural born Subjects of his Majesty now residing in this and some of the neighbouring Provinces have openly

declared

declared their Intention in a Body to possess themselves of and settle upon a large Tract of Land in this Province, lying on the Susquehannah River, and commonly called Wyominh, without any Licence or Grant from Our Honourable Proprietaries, or Authority from the Government, which Intention they have also declared they will carry into Execution this Spring.

This Tract of Land has not yet been purchased of the Six Nation Indians, but has hitherto been reserved and is now used by them for their hunting Ground.

The Government of Pennsylvania by their Treaties with those Indians stand engaged not to permit any Persons to settle upon Lands within the Bounds of the Province, that have not been purchased from them. Hence it is apprehended, those Indians may interpret such a ..... Settlement a Violation of our Treaties, and may be induced to commit Hostilities that would be attended with Consequences most dangerous at this Juncture.

2. If any Persons give out in Speeches that they are going to possess ..... themselves of this Tract of Land and persuade Others to go with them, and are making Preparation to go accordingly. Or if they shall presume to go and settle there, Is it Lawful for the Justices of the Peace to cause such Persons to be arrested and imprisoned?

To enter upon and seize the Lands of the Proprietaries, or Others, without their Permission, are Acts against the Laws and manifest Breaches of the Publick Peace. Such Offences, by a Multitude are of dangerous Example and highly penal, as they tend to Sedition, and are likely to terminate in Capital Crimes.

If any Persons, by Words or Actions, discover an Intention to disturb the Publick Peace, they may be arrested, and impresoned, until they give sufficient Security to keep the Peace and be of good Behaviour.

Therefore, if it shall be made appear to any Justice of the Peace, by Oath or ..... Affirmation, that any Persons have engaged themselves in the unlawful Design mentioned in the State of this Case, or have done any Acts tending to promote it, I am of Opinion, it will be the Duty of such Justice to issue his Warrants to apprehend these Persons, and upon their being arrested, to commit them to Gaol, unless they give ..... Securities, to appear at the next Quarter Sessions, to answer for their Offences, and in the mean time to keep the Peace and be of good Behaviour, such as the Justice, in his Discretion shall think reasonable.

Joseph Fauces
15th March 1754.

+

His Honour once intended to send Mr Weiser to Onondago to put the Indians on their Guard, against being imposed on by the Agents of Connecticut for a Grant of Lands within this Province; but Mr Weiser, who was consulted thereon, thinking it would be better to .. transact the Business at Albany, He dropped that Intention, and wrote the following Letter to Colo. Johnson.

Philadelphia 20th March 1754.

Sir,

I am informed that a Party of private People, residing in the Province of Connecticut, under a Pretence of some extensive Words in their Charter, have published their Intention even among our own Inhabitants of coming this Spring in a Body into this Province, and forcibly ..... settling some of the Proprietaries Lands in the very Centre of our Province; and that they were likewise hardy enough to make this known to the Government of Connecticut, who ..... disavowing their Proceedings, they thereupon turned their Thoughts towards the Indians of the five Nations, and having made up a Purse to give them for their Right to those Lands, they ag

as I am further informed, now intend to apply to you for your Interest and Solicitation in their Behalf with those Indians.

Though I have not the Honour of your personal acquaintance, yet from your Character both publick and private, which is well known to me, I should not entertain the least Doubt that You would encourage a Party of private Men, as this is, disavowed by .... their own Government, to make Contracts with the Indians for the Sale of Lands either in this or Connecticut Province, being contrary to the Laws of both Places, and productive of many fatal Consequences.

Nor can I have the least Suspicion, that if the Application was made openly to the Council of Onondago, with whom this Government only treats for Lands, as they know their Engagements to sell to our Proprietaries all the Lands within this Province when their Indians shall incline to leave them, or the Increase of the Inhabitants requires a larger Extent of Country, but they would reject the Application of these People with the greatest Indignation, as contrary to the Faith of Treaties subsisting between this Province and their Nations, and particularly, as their own Indians now live on these Lands, and use them for hunting; and they have repeatedly in their Treaties besought this Government, that they might not be settled, and Proclamations at their Instance have accordingly issued, strictly charging all Persons to forbear making any Settlements in those Parts of the Province.

But the Indians being liable to the Temptation of Liquor, and when disordered therewith apt to be imposed on, and for Money grant any Applications from any Body for Lands, though when sober, they would condemn themselves and be sorry for what they had done; I am apprehensive, if they are not put upon their Guard, that these Practices may be tried upon them; and these ill-minded People, when they have got Indian Deeds, no matter how obtained, nor from whom, may set up these Titles, and so pervert the Minds of the Inhabitants, and introduce intestine Broils and endless Disorders amongst us.

Knowing your Zeal for the Publick Good of the Colonies, and the Regards frequently shewn by You, in your early Intelligences to this Province; I entreat You would be pleased to put the Indians upon their Guard, as Opportunity serves You, against the Attempts of these People: which You must be sensible, might not only alienate the Affections of the Six Nations, by taking from them against their Will the Possession of a favourite Part of the Country, but might also draw on a Civil War within this .... Province; as the Government would be obliged to oppose such tumultuous Settlements and Intrusions, and thus prove particularly hurtful to the general Interest at this time, when the French have actually invaded this Province, and We are likely to be involved in a War to repel them.

As this Government has determined to send Commissioners to the general Interview at Albany, I shall direct some of the Commissioners to wait on You, in order to confer further with You of what may be necessary to be done on this Occasion; and in the mean time, I shall be much obliged to You, to use your good Offices in behalf of this Government, so far as that nothing may be done with the Indians by the Connecticut Agents, or any Others in their Behalf, to the Injury of the Proprietaries of this Province. I am

Sir

Your very humble Servant

James Hamilton

William Johnson Esquire.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday the 2d. April 1754.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Assembly being to meet this Night by Summons, the Governor ordered the Secretary to read the several Letters that had passed between him and the other Governors with whom He had corresponded, together with the Draughts of Two Messages prepared by him on the Subject Matter thereof, which were approved; and the Secretary was ordered to deliver them, the first to morrow Morning and the second in the afternoon.

A Letter from Governor Hamilton to Governor Denneadie.

Sir,

Ever since I had the Honour to write You of the twenty sixth of February, I have been labouring indefatigably with my Assembly to induce them to act vigorously on the present critical Juncture of Affairs at Ohio, and to grant such Supplies as might enable Us to resist the Invasions of the French on that Part of his Majesties Dominions, and thereby not only comply with the Kings just Expectations from Us, but likewise consult the Preservation of our own Provinces and others his Majesties Colonies on this Continent. And I heartily wish it were in my Power to give You a more favourable Account of their Proceedings in that Head than I am yet able to do. After having sat and conversed this Affair for near five Weeks together, they at Length on the ninth Instant adjourned themselves to the sixth of May, which by our Constitution they have a Right to do, without having at all provided for this Service, as in Duty to their King and Country they ought to have done. As I am well acquainted with their religious Scruples, I never expected they would appropriate Money for the Purpose of War or Warlike Preparations, but thought they might have been brought to make a handsome Grant to the Kings Use, and have left the Disposition of it to me, as they have done upon other Occasions of the like Nature; and had I been able with Certainty to acquaint them of the Measures taken by your Colony, it is not improbable but they might have been induced upon this Occasion to have done something of the same kind, but I much doubt whether in such a Proportion as the present Emergency requires. It was therefore particularly unfortunate that your Letter came not to my Hands till the Day after their Adjournment, that I might have made known to them the Steps that are taking by your Government, since their Want of Information in that particular was alledged as the principal Reason of their declining to do any Thing at this Time. Whether this be any Thing more than an Excuse for not complying with the Kings Commands, or whether they are really sincere in their Profession of demonstrating their Loyalty, by granting to his Majesty a Supply in any degree answerable to the present Exigency will be made apparent in a short time; for, upon the Arrival of your Express, and upon considering that so long an Adjournment as to the sixth of May would be in Effect to prevent any Measures being taken for that Purpose for this Year, I have ~~since~~ sent him Notice for calling them together on the second of next Month, when I shall not fail again to represent to them the absolute Necessity of their taking vigorous and expeditious Measures in this very critical and dangerous Situation of our Affairs. But in order to enable me to do this with the greater Force, I must beg the Favour of your Explanation upon the following Particulars in the fullest Manner possible.— What Number of Men are actually raised and by You proposed to be raised, and for what Time are they engaged.— What Arms, Cloathing and

Bedding

Pennsylvania. 1754.

Bedding are they to be provided with?— For how long time are they to be victualled, of what Kinds and in what Proportion to each Man?— What Quantity of Liquors and of what sort to each Man?— How are the Provisions, Cannon and Warlike Stores to be transported to Ohio?— What is the Number of your Cannon, the Quantity of Powder and other warlike Stores?— Do the Men receive a Bounty on enlisting, and what Pay by the Day or Month?— Are your Forces to be regimented; and who is to command in Chief?— In case You should be joined by a Body of Indians, is it proposed that they enter into Pay, and be victualled, ... cloathed &c.ª as the other Men, or in what other Manner are they to be treated?— What is ... proposed by You to be done at Ohio this Summer?— If You should be able to erect one or more Forts or Places of Security this Summer, how many Men do You propose to leave in— Garrison during the Winter?— Are there a Number of serviceable Arms to be purchased in your Colony in case I should want them?— I must likewise desire You will favour me with a Copy of your Act of Assembly for raising and appropriating the said Ten Thousand Pounds, as I may have Occasion to make Use of some Parts of it here.

Upon perusing your Letter I confess myself to have been surprized at finding that your Assembly had voted only the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds for this Expedition, which, according to our Estimation will not equip and maintain more than Four Hundred Men for six or seven Months (but of this, as I am perfectly unacquainted with matters of this kind, I should be glad to have your Sentiments) and these Men unless they are supported by a great Body of Indians, or Men from the other Colonies will be vastly inferior to the Forces the French will be able to— bring against them, if our Accounts are to be depended on. What Assistance, indeed You can rely upon from the other Colonies I am a Stranger to; but I cannot see from whence any great Matters are to be expected unless from this Province, which as I have before observed is altogether uncertain: for my own part, had I found our Assembly in a Disposition to give, I never proposed asking them for fewer than a thousand Men; for unless We are able to ... make a good and secure Lodgment against the Enemy this Summer, it is clear, that the whole Expence of the Armament will be thrown away, and perhaps the Lives of many of his Majesties Subjects sacrificed to little or no Purpose.

I return You Thanks for the kind Offer You are pleased to make of your Services to this Colony at the Meeting which You propose to hold in May at Winchester. I heartily ..... wish You Health to undergo the Fatigue of the Journey, and Success in your Endeavours to ..... promote the Union between the Northern and Southern Indians, which at this time would be peculiarly happy, being the most likely means to defeat the Purposes of the French.

Having thus mentioned every Thing that appears to me material at present; I have only to desire You will please to favour me with your Answer by my Express with as little Delay as possible, that I may be able to speak to my Assembly thereupon immediately upon their meeting: there being no Time to be lost, if any Thing is intended to be done to Purpose.

I am with very great Respect

Sir

Your most obedient and

most humble Servant

James Hamilton

Philadelphia
the
13 March 1754.

The Honourable Robert Dinwiddie Esquire.

Another Letter from Gover. Hamilton to Governor Dinwiddie.

Sir,

The Invasions lately made by the French on Part of his Majesties Dominions having engaged me to enquire very particularly into the Situation of their Forts, and likewise into the

Bounds

Bounds and Extent of this Province to the Westward; I have from thence the greatest Reason to believe, that not only the French Forts, but also the Forts of Mohongiala (Where You ..... propose to erect One and to grant away Two Hundred Thousand acres of Land to such as shall engage in the intended Expedition to Ohio), are really within the Limits of Pennsylvania. In Duty to my Constituents therefore I cannot but remind You of what I had the Honour to write You some time ago upon this Subject; and transcribe, for your Consideration the following Extracts from Two Letters of the Honourable Proprietor Thomas Penn in relation to this Matter.

Extract of a Letter from the Honourable Thomas Penn Esquire to James Hamilton Esquire the ninth of March 1752.

"As We cannot expect our Assembly will do any thing in this Matter, I desire "You will enter into any reasonable Measures to assist the Governor of Virginia to "build a Fort there, to wit, at Ohio, taking some Acknowledgment from him that "this Settlement shall not be made Use of to prejudice our Right to that Country, "at the same time You give him Assurance the Settlers shall enjoy the Lands they bona fide settle, on the common Quit Rent, which is what I have agreed with Mr Blaikney "here".

Extract of a Letter from the Honourable Thomas Penn Esquire to James Hamilton Esquire the thirteenth of July 1752.

"I hope You will, as I wrote You on the ninth of March, acquaint the Governor "of Virginia that We consent to this (that is to the building of a Fort at Ohio) without "Prejudice to our Right to the Land, in case it should be found to lye within our "Province, to be granted to the bona fide Settlers on the same Rent and Conditions "as they are to have it from Virginia."

As Mr Penn's Expectations herein appear to me extreamly reasonable, and cannot, I apprehend, at all interfere with the well judged Encouragement You have thought fit to promise to such as shall enter into this Service; I flatter myself, You will find no Difficulty in making the Acknowledgment thereon mentioned, as on my Part, am ready to give You any Assurance that the bona fide Settlers shall be entitled to the Lands under this Government on the same Rent and Conditions as are granted by You. I could have wished your Proclamation had ascertained the Number of Acres to be allotted to each private Man; which I think ought not to be less than Two Hundred to every Settler: my Reason for this is the having been informed that in some Expeditions carried on to the Northward, where the like Encouragement had been promised; a very partial Distribution of the Lands was afterwards made among the Officers to the great Injury and Disappointment of the Soldiers, which I would feign hope will not be the Case here; inasmuch as the Expectation of obtaining Settlements in so good a Country as that is represented, will be the principal Inducement to most of those who will go from this Province; of whom I should not doubt being able to procure a very considerable Number, were I properly supported by the Assembly. I am

Sir

Your very humble Servant

James Hamilton.

Philadelphia
13th March 1754.

The Honourable Robert Dinwiddie Esquire.

A Letter from the Governor of Virginia to Governor Hamilton.

Williamsburg Virginia March 21st 1754.

Sir,

Last night I received your Letter of the thirteenth Currant by your Express. I am sensible of the Endeavours You in course must have taken with your Assembly for a meet Supply

Pennsylvania. 1754.

Supply, agreable to his Majesties Commands to all the Governors on this Continent.; and it gives me much Concern and Surprize, that the Gentlemen of your Assembly should be so backward in qualifying You to resist the Invasions of the French on his Majesties Lands on the Ohio, which if once they have a quiet Settlement there, the Incursions of these People with their Indians on our present Settlements will be constantly attended with Robberies and Murders, which was the Case last Year, when some of their Indians came to our Frontiers, murdered a man, his Wife and five Children, robbed them of all they had, and left their Bodies to be tore to Pieces by the wild Beasts: this is no more than what may be annually ..... expected from them.

His Majesties Orders to me are, to prevent their settling on his Lands on the Ohio; and further, orders me to build Two or Three Forts on that River; not doubting but the ..... neighbouring Governments will assist me to put these his Commands in due Execution. — He has further ordered Two of the Independant Companies at New York, and One from Carolina to be sent hither to be under my Command: I have accordingly sent Expresses to these Colonies, to send these Companies with all possible Dispatch; when arrived I propose sending them with the Forces raised here and the neighbouring Colonies to the Ohio.

Our Assembly were very backward in raising Money, and the Sum raised is not half what I Expected, but on Compliance with his Majesties Orders, I am willing to do all in my Power to erect a Fort. — In January I commissioned William Trent to raise One Hundred Men, he had got Seventy, and has begun a Fort at the Forks of Mohongialo. His Majesty sent me One Thirty Pieces of Cannon Four Pounders, with Carriages and all other necessary Implements with Eighty Barrels of Gunpowder; I have sent Ten of the Guns and One Third of their Implements to Alexandria, from thence to be transported to Wills Creek, and into the Ohio in Waggons. They are a little too heavy, therefore I only sent Ten to see if they can be properly carried out; and am of Opinion, when our Assembly comes to think seriously of the Importance of this Expedition, they will on their next Meeting grant a much larger Supply, which would have been more eligible to have done it at once, but hope the small Sum now given will be no Precedent to your Assembly, but that they will shew themselves Loyal Subjects, and consider his Majesties Lands are likely to be invaded, and that the Invaders will not remain quiet there, but constantly harrass our Settlements on our Frontiers.

We are in great Want of proper Officers; but have from the best Recommendations and Informations commissioned the best I could meet with. The chief Command is invested in Col. Joshua Fry, a man of good Sense and one of our best Mathematicians; the Number of Men to be raised, now is only Three Hundred besides those Captain Trent has raised and now on the Ohio; if We can only erect a Fort or Two as a mark of Possession it will be doing ... something, but I am much cramped by the narrow Dispositions of our Assembly. The Time the Men are to be kept in Pay could not be determined.

I sent up Three Hundred Small Arms to this small Regiment, with Powder and Shot, Thirty Tents; they propose being given Uniform, by having a Red Coat and Breeches, which they are willing the Charge should be stopped out of their Pay. I have ordered Six Months Provision, viz. Beef, Pork and Flower, but this Quantity must be encreased, as We must supply our Friendly Indians with Provisions, as the Supply is to be carried out to the Ohio: I leave the Proportion to be given to each Man, to the Commanding Officer.

I ordered a Quantity of Rum to be sent out, to have some on their March, and .... when they come to work in erecting the Forts, a Quart of Rum to every Four Men p. Day. The Guns &c. to be transported as above. — The Men receive each a Pistole on their enlisting, and Eight Pence p. Day Pay. — The Colonel Fifteen Shillings — Lieutenant Colonel Twelve Shillings and Six Pence — Major Ten Shillings — Captains Eight Shillings — Lieutenants Four Shillings and Ensigns Three Shillings p. Day — Surgeon Four Shillings — Serjeants One Shilling — Drummer One Shilling.

J

I have wrote the Catawbas and Cherokees to join our Forces on the Ohio in April next; I promised them a Present from their Father the King next Year; they must have Provisions and Arms, but I did not engage them any Cloathing, the Messenger I sent to them is not yet returned. I shall be glad if We can this Summer erect Two Forts, which if effected, I ... propose leaving the three Independant Companies to remain in them all Winter. We have not above Three Hundred and Fifty Small Arms remaining in our Magazine; some thereof I believe must be sent to the Indians, and I know of none to be sold here.

I think the above is a full Answer to your Queries, and am of Opinion, if We can not effect building the Forts before the French come down the River, that in that case, when our whole Force are collected together, We should make a Push to dispossess them of any Settlement they should presume to make there.

Your Calculation is very right in regard to the small Sum granted by our Assembly, but hope they will at next Meeting encrease that Sum by a further Vote.

Our Forces to be sure will be much inferior to the French, unless the other Colonies are more liberal and compliant than Ours has been, and You know the Uncertainty of depending on the Indians; but I always had much Dependance on the Supply from your Province, and One Thousand Men from You would give great Life to the Expedition, and in that case should have Reason to expect Success.

I am in Hopes the Men enlisted here will be at Alexandria this Week, and as Captain Trent has wrote earnestly for some Men to be sent out to his Aid, I wrote last Monday to march that Forces were at Alexandria immediately for the Ohio to join him, and ordered them to send a Runner before them that they may not be surprized.

If our Assembly had granted even this little Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds last November, I think it more than probable that our Fort might have been finished before this Time, but I could not then prevail with them; which occasioned my proroguing them with some Anger. I have had a very uphill Affair to manage, and indeed I never met with so much Trouble in any Thing I had the Management of as this.

Pray let me know as soon as possible the Determination of your Assembly, which if they act with Spirit will be very great Encouragement to Us.

I remain with very great Respect

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

Robt. Dinwiddie.

Governor Hamilton.

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Another Letter from the Governor of Virginia to Governor Hamilton.

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Williamsburg Virginia March 21st. 1754.

Sir

Your former Letter of the twenty fifth of February gave me much Concern for your ill State of Health; but hope You are now well recovered, and shall be glad to hear of a full ... Confirmation thereof.

Our Assembly in November last spent a great deal of their Time in complaining of my taking a Pistole Fee, for sealing and signing all Patents for Land; this Fee was agreable to my Instructions, established by the unanimous Consent of the Council and approved by the Lords for Trade and Plantations; however they were so violently warm thereon, that they have addressed his Majesty on this trifling Fee, and sent a Person home on Purpose to negotiate this affair: they made several ill natured and uncommon Resolves, which occasioned my proroguing them with some Marks of Anger.

Your

Pennsylvania. 1754.

Your private Letter of the Thirteenth Currant I have duly read, and am much misled by our Surveyors, if the Forks of Mohongialo be within the Limits of your Proprietors Grant; I have for some time wrote home to have the Line run, to have the Boundaries properly known, that I may be able to appoint Magistrates on the Ohio (if in this .... Government) to keep the Traders and Others in good Order: and I presume soon there will be Commissioners appointed for that Service.

In the mean time, that no Hindrance may be given to our intended Expedition, I think it is highly reasonable if these Lands are in your Proprietors Grant, that the .... Settlers thereon should pay the Quit Rents to Mr Penn, and not to his Majesty; and therefore as much as lies in my Power I agree thereto, after the Time granted them by my Proclamation to be clear of Quit Rents ceases; but surely I am from all Hands assured that Logs Town is far to the West of Mr Penn's Grant. — I did not care to promise every private Man a certain Quantity of Land, as I fixd it agreable to their Behaviour and Recommendation of their Court Martial, and to raise an Emulation among them. I shall do all in my Power to prevent the Injury You justly observe on former Encouragements of the like kind; I am of Opinion, if We succeed, that the new Settlers will be the greatest Barrier, and therefore the Land divided among Numbers will be much more eligible.

I shall be in Pain till I hear from You of the Result of your Assembly; the march from your Province to Wills Creek I think much easier and shorter Distance than from this.

I enclose You the Act passed last Session for Ten Thousand Pounds which I am .... ashamed of, as it is so much clogged; nothing but the Emergency of our present Affairs ..... would have allowed me to pass it. — I also send You my Speeches and their Addresses to me last Sessions. I am with very great Respect and Esteem

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

Robt Dinwiddie

P.S. I trouble You with a Letter to the Governor of New York, which I entreat may be sent him with all possible Expedition.

Governor Hamilton.

Letter from Governor De Lancey to Governor Hamilton.

Sir

Col. Johnson found out Stephen Coffen the Englishman that deserted from the ... French in their Return from Ohio as they passed Oswego, and has examined him upon Oath; I enclose You a Copy of his Examination, which differs widely from the Account I ... received from Lieutenant Holland commanding Officer at Oswego. I have sent one Copy to Governor Dinwiddie, and as the Express waits, I will not detain him any longer, and ..... therefore must beg the Favour of You to send one to Governor Sharpe. I am

Sir

Your most obedient and humble Servant

James De Lancey.

New York 19th February 1754.

Governor Hamilton.

Deposition of Stephen Coffen.

Stephen Coffen of full age being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that he was taken Prisoner by the French and Indians of Canada at Niagara in the Year 1753, under the Command of Captain Noble, from whence he was brought to an Indian Village called Assagouche, about

Fifteen

Fifteen Leagues to the Westward of Chebucta, where he was kept three Weeks Prisoner; from thence was carried to a French Settlement called Beaubasin, where the French had a Wooden Fort then garrisoned with Twenty Five Men, remained there Two Months; from thence they took him to Gaspey, a considerable Fishing Place in the Gulf of Saint Laurence, near to the Entrance of the River; there are about Three Hundred Families settled there; they kept him there working near Four Years; then he was brought to a Place called Ramoushi, ... inhabited by about Twenty Five French Families, from which Place he sailed two Years to and from Quebec in a Sloop carrying Beaver and Furrs, Salmon &c.a to Quebec, and in Return brought back Brandy, Dry Goods &c.a during the Time of the Deponents residing at Quebec, he said it was commonly talked or reported, that they, the French, intended to settle as many Families as they could to the Westward, to make up for the Loss of Two of their Farms sunk in the West Indies by an Earthquake. The Deponent further saith, that the Navigation up the River Saint Laurence is very dangerous, particularly so at the Isle aux Coudres, and the Isle Orleans, the North Side of the former is the best Navegation, the South Side being very rapid and rocky, and the Channel not above Two Hundred .... Yards wide, about six Fathom Water, whereas in the North Channel there is Fifteen Fathom; at the North East End of the latter begin Two Sand Banks, which extend a League down said River, the Channel is between both Banks, and pretty near the middle of the River, from thence to the Town of Quebec good Navigation, being Fifteen Fathom all the Way. The Deponent says there is no Possibility of going up said River without the Side wind, or a strong North East Wind, especially at the Two aforementioned Islands. In September 1752 the Deponent was in Quebec, and endeavouring to agree with some Indians to convey him to his own Country, New England, which the Indians acquainted the Governor of, who .... immediately ordered him to Gaol, where he lay three Months. At the Time of his Releasment the French were preparing for a March to Belle Riviere, or Ohio, when he offered his Service, but was rejected by the Governor General De Lain. He the said General setting out for Mont Real about the Third of January 1753, to rein and forward the Forces the Deponent applied to Major Ramsey for Liberty to go with the army to Ohio, who told him, he would ask the Lieutenant De Rouy, who agreed to it, upon which he was equipped as a Soldier, and sent with a Detachment of Three Hundred Men to Montreal, under the Command of Monsieur Babeer, who set off immediately with said Command by .... Land and Sea, for Lake Erie; they in their Way stopped a couple of Days to refresh themselves at Cadarakqui Fort, about Twenty on the North Side of Lake Ontario, then at Niagara Fort Fifteen Days; from thence sett off by Water being April, and arrived at Chadakoin on Lake Erie, where they were ordered to fell Timber and prepare it for building a Fort there according to the Governors Instructions, but Mr. Morang coming up with Five Hundred Men and Twenty Indians, put a Stop to the erecting a Fort at that Place, by reason of his not liking the Situation, and the River of Chadakoins being too shallow to carry any Craft with Provisions &c.a to Belle Riviere. The Deponent says there arose a warm Debate between Messieurs Babeer and Morang thereon, the first insisting on building a Fort there, agreable to his Instructions, otherwise on Morangs giving him an Instrument in Writing to satisfy the Governor in that Point, which Morang did, and then ordered Monsieur Mercie, who was both Commissary and Engineer, to go along said Lake, and look for a good Situation, which he found, and returned in three Days, it being Fifteen Leagues to the South West of Chadakoins; they were then all ordered to repair there, when they arrived, there were about Twenty Indians fishing in the Lake, who immediately quit it on seeing the French; they fell to Work and built a square Fort of Chesnut Logs, square and lapped over each other to the Height of Fifteen Feet, it is about one hundred and twenty square, a Log House in each Square, a Gate to the Southward and another to the Northward, not one Port Hole cut on any Part of it, when finished, they called it Fort Le Boeuf. The Indians who came from Canada with them returned very much out of Temper, owing to it

Pennsylvania. 1754.

it's said among the Army, to Morang's dogged Behaviour and ill Usage of them (but they the Indians said at Oswego; it was owing to the French's misleading them, by telling them Falshoods, which they said they had now found out) and left them. As soon as the Forces finished, they marched Southward, cutting a Waggon Road through a fine level Country twenty one Miles to the River aux Bauf's (leaving Captain De Ponteney with an hundred Men to garrison the Fort La Brishe Isle) they fell to Work, cutting Timber &c. for another Fort, while Mr. Morang ordered Monsieur Bile with fifty Men to a Place called by the Indians Ganagarahhare, on the Banks of Belle Reviere, where the Reviere aux Bouf's empties into it; in the meantime, Morang had Ninety large Boats or Battoes made to carry down the Baggage and Provisions &c. to said Place. Monsieur Bile on coming to said Indian Place was asked what he wanted or intended. He, upon answering it was their Father the Governor of Canada's Intention to build a Trading House for their and all their Brethrens Conveniency, was told by the Indians, that the Lands were theirs, and that they would not have them build upon it. The said Monsieur Bile returning met Two Englishmen, Traders, with their Horses and Goods, whom they bound and brought Prisoners to Morang, who ordered them to Canada in Irons: the said Bile reported to Morang the Situation was good, but the Water in the River aux Bauf was low at that time to carry down any Craft with Provisions &c. a few Days after the Deponent says, that about one hundred Indians, called by the French the Loos, came to the Fort La Riviere aux Bauf, to see what the French were doing, that Monsieur Morang treated them very kindly, and then asked them to carry down some Stores &c. to the Belle Riviere on Horseback for Payment, which he immediately advanced them on their undertaking to do it; they set off with full Loads, but never delivered them to the French which incensed them very much, being not only a Loss but a great Disappointment. Morang, a man of a very peevish choleric Disposition, meeting with those and other Crosses and finding the Season of the Year too far advanced to build the third Fort, called all his Officers together, and told them, that as he had engaged and firmly promised the Governor to finish the Three Forts that Season, and not being able to fulfil the same, was both afraid and ashamed to return to Canada, being sensible he had now forfeited the Governors Favour for ever, wherefore rather than live in Disgrace, he begged they would take him (as he then sat in a Carriage made for him in being very sick some time) and set him in the middle of the Fort, and then set Fire to it, and let him perish in the Flames, which was rejected by the Officers, who (the Deponent says) had not the least Regard for him, as he had behaved very ill to them all in general. The Deponent further saith, that about eight Days before he left the Fort La Brishe Isle, Chevalier De Corne arrived Express from Canada in a Birch Canoe, worked by Ten Men, with Letters (as the Deponent afterwards heard) from the Governor La Cain, to Morang, to make all the Preparation possible against the Spring of the Year to build their Two Forts at Chadohoam, one of them by Lake Erie, the other at the End of the Carrying Place at Lake Chadohain, which Carrying Place is Fifteen Miles from one Lake to the other; the said Chevalier brought for Monsieur Morang a Cross of Saint Louis, which the Rest of the Officers would not allow him to take, until the Governor was acquainted of his Conduct and Behaviour: the Chevalier returned immediately to Canada. After which the Deponent saith when the Fort La Riviere aux Bœufs was finished (which is built of Wood Stockaded Triangular wise, and has Two Log Houses in the inside) Monsieur Morang ordered all the Party to return to Canada for the Winter Season, except Three Hundred Men, which he kept to garrison both Forts, and prepare Materials against the Spring for the building other Forts. He also sent Jean Cour an Officer and ..... Interpreter to stay the Winter among the Indians on Ohio, in order to prevail with them not only to assist the Building Forts on their Lands, but also to persuade them, if possible, to join the French Interest against the English. The Deponent further saith, that on the twenty eighth of October last, he set off for Canada, under the Command of Captain Doman, who had

had the Command of twenty two Battoes with twenty Men in each Battoe; the Remainder being Seven Hundred and Sixty Men followed in a few Days, the thirtieth arrived at Chadakoin, where they stayed four Days, during which Time Monsieur Peon with Two Hundred Men cut a Waggon Road over the Carrying Place from Lake Erie to Lake Chadakoin being fifteen Miles, viewed the Situation, which proved to their Liking; so set off November the Third for Niagara, where We arrived the Sixth. It is a very poor rotten old Wooden Fort, with Twenty Five Men in it, they talked of rebuilding it next Summer. We left Fifty Men there to build Battoes for the Army against the Spring, also a Store House for Provisions, Stores &c. staid here two Days, then set off for Canada. all Hands being fatigued with rowing all night, ordered to put ashore to Breakfast within a mile of Oswego Garrison. at which Time the Deponent saith, that He with a Frenchman slipped off, and got to the Fort, where they were both concealed until the Army passed, from thence he came here. The Deponent further saith, that besides the Three Hundred Men with which he went up first under the Command of Monsieur Babeer, and the Five Hundred men Morang brought up afterwards, there came at different Times with Stores &c. Seven Hundred more, which made in all Fifteen Hundred Men, Three Hundred of which remained to garrison the Two Forts, Fifty at Niagara, the Rest all returned to Canada, and talked of going upagain this Winter, so as to be there the beginning of April. They had Two Six Pounders and Seven Four Pounders, which they intended to have planted in the Fort at Ganagarahhare, which was to have been called the Governors Fort, but as that was not built, they left the Guns in the Fort La Riviere aux Boufs, where Morang commands, further the Deponent saith not.

Stephen R Coffen.
his mark

Sworn before me this
10th Day of January 1754.
Wm Johnson

New York 26th February 1754 a true Copy examined by
Geo Banyar DCLCon.

Another Letter from Governor De Lancey to Governor Hamilton.

New York 1st April 1754.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge Three of your Letters of the 18th, the 25th and 27th Instant: the two latter requiring no particular Answer, I shall apply myself to the first, in which You desire my Opinion of the Sentiments of the Members of our Assembly on the Ohio Affair: I have no Opportunity of conversing with any but those of this City; and altho I shall press the Matter earnestly upon them, Yet I believe from what I can learn, as I am commanded to send Two of the Independant Companies to Virginia, the Assembly will hardly be ..... brought further than to give a Supply for their Transportation and Provisions for some time; the Reasons they will urge for this will be that the Fort at Oswego wants Repair, and I am under a Necessity of pressing upon them the providing for a double Garrison there, as the French in their Way to the Ohio pass by that Place they might surprize it, if not well garrisoned: and I cannot doubt but if the French are attached and driven from Ohio, they will endeavour to take Revenge on Oswego, should they find it weak and unprovided: ... there is another Thing I shall think it necessary to recommend to them, and that is to build a Fort or Forts to the Northward of Albany, to guard that Frontier against the ..... Incursions of the French or their Indians, and also some Fort in the Indian Country, to

encourage them into a Dependance, or at least a greater Confidence than they now seem to place in Us; and in the latter, I would flatter myself that the neighbouring Governments will join in the Expence of the Measure seeming to me to be of common Concern and general Utility to all these Colonies: for I am persuaded, if the Six Nations are once convinced that they can and will be protected by these Colonies, they will be ready to join with Us; their Backwardness proceeding rather from their Fear of the active Spirit of the French than from any good Will they bear them: and if the Indians are secured, and any Difference should arise between them and the French, they will gladly make a Peace and cultivate it with all the Southern Indians in Alliance with his Majesties Subjects on this Continent. As these Things will inevitably occasion a great Expence, I doubt whether the Assembly will go further than I hinted above.

I am glad your Assembly are willing to bear the Expence of sending Commissioners to Albany; if any of your Friends should come on that Service, I shall be desirous of shewing them all the Civility I can, besides what is due to their Character.

As to the three Heads on which you desire Information — the Value of the Present from his Majesty, whether any Presents are expected from the other Governments; and what is proposed to be transacted at this Treaty — The Present sent by his Majesty from the Board of Ordnance, consists of 400 Fire arms, only Part come, some large Bars of Lead for Ball, 30 Barrels of Powder and 10,000 Flints; and from the late Sir Danvers Osborn's Agent at Mt. Mellequet about £300 Sterling. The Assembly of this Province have voted £800 Currency, Part of which I am told will be expended in maintaining the Indians at Albany, and in their Return.

Mr. Shirley acquaints me he shall send Commissioners, but with what Present I know not, nor can I say any Thing with Certainty as to the other Governments. As his Majesty has been graciously pleased to order the Indians a Present, and has directed the several Governments to send Commissioners at this Interview, the Indians upon seeing them there, will expect a Present from each Province; and I think it cannot fail of having a considerable Influence on their Minds, when they perceive the Governments are acting in Concert, and are told, that in so doing they obey the great King their Father on the other Side of the Water; which may make them expect the Continuance of such an Union of Counsels, and embolden them to act with Vigour in the British Interest against the French.

As to what is proposed to be transacted at the Interview for the general Benefit of the Colonies, You will perceive by the enclosed Extract of a Letter from the Lords of Trade, that their Lordships expect a Treaty to be made in his Majesties Name between the Indians and all the Provinces. To which I shall add, the uniting all the Indians if possible, that are in Alliance with Us, into one firm and lasting Peace, and to this Purpose to lay before them their Folly in waging War against each other; when they are Children of the same Father, and are all Brethren to the English; to represent the Artifice of the French in persuading them into so absurd a Measure, to alarm them at the French building Forts on the Lands conquered by and belonging to them, on the Lake Erie and this River, and thereby excluding them from a free and open Communication with the far Indians and those in Alliance with Us; and principally to concert Measures for building Forts in such Parts of the Indian Country for their Protection, as may encourage them to declare openly and cordially for Us, by seeing their Wives and Children will be secured, and a Retreat afforded for themselves when overpowered and pursued by the Enemy — If something of this Kind be done, some reasonable and equal Plan concerted of Expence and Operations; I am persuaded the Indians would readily join Us in dislodging the French from this Side of the Lakes — but till some such Measures be taken, I cannot have a great Dependance on their acting with any Vigour; we must shew them the Way, and shew them too that there may be Safety for them in adhering wholly to the British

Interest

Interest. This I wish to see done, and that I had Grounds to hope for it, but as I am not sanguine enough to hope it, as Things now are, yet from a full and free Inquiry at the Treaty, into the State of the Colonies, something may be struck out of general Utility, necessary to be laid before his Majesty (of whose Assistance we can have no Room to doubt) that may contribute to the Safety and Prosperity of the Colonies, and which from his Majesties Influence, and our awakening to a ..... Sense of our Danger from the French Encroachments, may produce Events beyond our present Expectations. I am persuaded with You that the barely making Presents to the Indians, may keep them our Friends, the Advantage they have in the Trade with us, above what they reap from that with the French, is also an Inducement; But I must agree with You that We remove their Fears by shewing them Safety, or at least that We will run equal Risques with them, nothing vigorous can be reasonably expected from them, for I am sensible, some of them look with great Regret at the large Steps the French are making towards them and us.

In the Letter from the Lords of Trade from whence the enclosed Extract is taken, their Lordships say, that as a great deal depends upon the Interpreters, we desire You will be particularly careful to appoint such as are well acquainted with the Indian Language, and Men of Ability and Integrity. Where I shall find an able Interpreter in this Country I know not, nor have been able to learn, the one we have is very unequal to the Service. I must therefore beg the Favour of You to let Mr Weiser accompany your Commissioners to Albany, that We may have his Assistance, or else We shall be at some Difficulty to understand the Indians, or they us.

I hope You will be able to apprehend my Thoughts tho thrown together without Order and in this confused Manner, my having so many Letters to answer by this Post not giving me Leisure to digest them in any Method — If having a great Regard for your abilities and Integrity, could be an Excuse for this hasty Writing, no one is better entitled to it, than

Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
James De Lancey.

1. Letter from Governor Shirley to Governor Hamilton.

Boston. March 4. 1754.

Sir,

I am favoured with your Honours Letter of the twenty sixth of December, and am much obliged to You for the Expressions of your Esteem of me, which are the more agreable to me, as they come from a Gentleman for whom, with the greatest Truth I can say, I have an equal Regard.

I thank You for your account of the Encroachments of the French upon the River Ohio, which are confirmed to me in a Letter by the last Post from Governor Dinwiddie, who I doubt not hath informed your Honour, as he hath done me, of the answer he hath received from Mr. Legardeur Desliette, the French Commanding officer, dated at his Fort upon the River aux Beef, declaring his Orders and Resolution to maintain the Forts already erected upon the River Ohio, and others which he is directed to build there, and denying the Right of the English to trade upon those Waters: and I entirely agree in Sentiments with your Honour concerning the fatal Consequences which those Proceedings of the French, if they are not dislodged, must bring upon his Majesties Southern Colonies on this Continent in Time of War.

Your Honour is pleased in your Letter to desire me to give You my Sentiments upon the Extents of his Majesties Dominions in North America, apprehending that I was employed by my late Commission at Paris in the Settlement of those Limits, between the Two Crowns: but this Part of the Negotiation, which I was directed by his Majesties Ministers to enter into, during my

Residence

Residence in France, was confined with respect to the English Territories on this Continent, to ... the antient Limits of Acadia, or Nova Scotia, and the Eastern Bounds of New England. ..... However Sir, I shall freely declare to you my Opinion upon the Point in Question, so far as I ... have enquired into and considered of it.

It appears to me, that the several Patents granted by King James the First to the Two Councils established at Plymouth and London for planting Colonies upon this Continent are the only Rule for the English Governors to judge of the Limits of the Colonies under their respective Governments by, in all Disputes with the French Governors concerning the Extent of his Majesties ... Territories upon this Continent, except in Cases where the original Limits, declared in their Letters Patent may be altered by Treaty or other Agreement between the Two Crowns: now those Patents extend the English Territories lying within the 32d and 48th Degrees of Northerly Latitude quite across this Continent, viz. from the Atlantick Ocean to the South Sea: and I cant find that those Eastern and Western Limits have been abridged by any Treaty. Accadia, or Nova Scotia hath ... indeed passed by several Treaties, between the Two Crowns at different Times to and from the English and French; but all that the Treaty of Utrecht, which is the only one that makes the least Mention of the Limits between the English and French upon this Continent, expresseth ... concerning that Matter is contained in the 15th article, "by which the Indians of the Five Nations "are declared to be Subjects to the Dominions of Great Britain; and it is stipulated that the English "and French shall on both sides have and enjoy full Liberty of going and coming (viz. upon any "Part of the Continent) on account of Trade; also that all the Indian Nations of the Country, "whether in Subjection to the English or French, or Friends to either, shall have the same Liberty "to resort as they please to the French and British Colonies for promoting Trade on the one side "and the other: but that it was to be exactly and distinctly settled by Commissaries which of the "Indians are, and which ought to be accounted the Subjects and Friends of Britain and France.

This hath not been yet done, but it is most evident the erecting of Forts by the French upon the Lakes and Rivers behind the English Colonies in order to exclude them from ... trading there with the Indians, and the taking away the Effects of our Traders, and making them Prisoners; all which Monsieur Legardeur Deselletre hath done, and declares in his Answer to Governor Dinwiddie, that he had Orders from Monsieur Duquesne the French Governor General of Canada and the Louisiana so to do, is doubtless an Infraction of the Treaty of Utrecht, and a Violation of the Peace of Aix la Chapelle, at the time of making which it was stipulated that neither Crown should make any new Settlement in any Part of the ..... Continent which is contracted between them, until the same shall be settled by Commissaries: so that if there was Room to entertain any Doubt whether the Branches of the Ohio upon which the French are erecting Forts for these declared Purposes, were within the Limits of his Majesties Dominions, which I cant think there is, yet it seems clear that his Governors in North America have good Right and are bound in Duty to his Service and Faithfulness to the Trust reposed in them, for promoting the Safety and Welfare of his People under their Government, to use their utmost Endeavours to remove them.

I cant find that the French have any other Pretensions to that vast Country which they ... claim on the Back of the English Colonies between Canada and Mississippi, extending Westward as far as the pacific Ocean, than that it hath been more traversed by their Coureurs des Bois and Runners than it hath by the English: as to the immense Fur Trade which they would monopolize ... there, it is directly contrary to the Treaty of Utrecht, as well as the Rights of Dominion they pretend to over the numerous Tribes of Indians inhabiting it; and if the Right to the Soil was to depend upon Indian Treaties, so far as I can learn, the Right of the English to that Tract is better founded upon that Foot than theirs.

But whatever Obscurity or Doubt there may be concerning his Majesties Right of Dominion over these Territories: the Scheme of the French in circumscribing the English Colonies within the Apalachean Mountains, which they pretend to be the Western Boundary between us and them, is ..... evidently this, to monopolize the immense Fur Trade within that Tract to themselves, to subject

all

all the Indians behind those Mountains to their Power, to establish a Communication between Canada and their Posessions upon the Mississippi, by a Chain of Forts upon the Lakes and Rivers, in which they have already made a most surprizing Progress, and by that means perpetually to harrass our Southern Colonies with Incursions of the Savages from behind the Mountains; all which must not only prove an effectual Bar to the Extension of his Majesties Southern Colonies in particular to the Westward, as your Honour justly observes in your Letter, but seems to threaten them with Destruction in the End; especially considering the infinite advantage ... which the French, who from the Nature of their Government can play all their Engines at once, and direct their whole Force where and when they please, have over the English Colonies in Time of War; which are very much governed by Assemblies independant of each other, frequently ... disunited in their Councils, some of them very remote from Others, and all of them looking ... upon themselves to be concerned in the Common Cause in proportion to their Nearness or Remoteness from the present Danger. And if the French should prevail in their attempts to seduce the Indians of the Six Nations from their Alliance with the English, and gain them over to their Interest, which I am afraid they are in a fair Way of doing, there seems Reason to apprehend that such an Event may be nearer than is generally imagined.

To obviate this Danger the Union of all his Majesties Colonies upon this Continent, as recommended in the Earl of Holdernesse's Letter, seems absolutely necessary; and as there is to be an Interview with the Indians of the Six Nations at Albany in June next, to which I suppose Commissioners will be sent from the Governments of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, ... New Jersey, the Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire, and perhaps from Connecticut. I would propose it for your Honours Consideration, whether this Meeting of the Commissioners from so many Governments to treat with these Indians in Concert with the Government of New York, ... may not yield the most favourable Opportunity for beginning such an Union in a most ... essential Article, by jointly agreeing upon such Measures as may most effectually preserve and strengthen our Alliance and Friendship with these Nations, for which Purpose the several Commissioners should have sufficient Powers given them by their respective Governments, as also to settle the Quota of each Government either in Men or Money, for carrying what shall be agreed upon into Execution; whether that shall be by erecting and maintaining One or more Forts within such Parts of the Mohawk Country, as the Indians themselves shall chuse for the Protection of it, with their Aids and Purposes against the Incursions of the French and Indians in their Alliance, at such times as they shall be engaged in Hostility or War or otherwise, as ... shall be most acceptable to the Indians, and conducive to his Majesties Service.

This is what I shall recommend in a most pressing Manner to the Assembly within this Government, which is to meet the twenty seventh of this Month, to do on their Part; and I cant but think it would have a most happy Effect, if his Majesties several Governors could prevail upon their respective Assemblies to join in so salutary and necessary a Measure for the common Cause.

Should the French by Artifices or Threats, induce the Six Nations only to give them and the Indians in their Alliance a free Passage thro their Country for making Incursions upon us, ... that would be attended with very mischievous Consequences to his majesties Colonies; but should they prevail upon them to take up the Hatchet against us at this Conjuncture, it must be fatal to them.

I design to mention this Proposal for securing the Indians of the Six Nations in our Friendship by a joint Concurrence of the several Governments who shall send Commissioners to Albany, to Governor Denneddie, Sharpe, Belcher, De Lancey and Wentworth; and shall be obliged to your Honour for your free Sentiments upon it, as also upon the most proper Measures for cementing an Union among the Governments in general upon this Continent in all other respects, for their mutual Protection and Defence against the common Enemy suitable to the present Conjuncture; and shall with great Pleasure cooperate with you for promoting his Majesties ... Service upon all Occasions.

I shall be obliged to your Honour for an Account of the Success of the Messenger which you sent

sent to discover the Situation of the French Fort and their Designs, with the Determination of your Assembly upon this Occasion; as also of what Advice You may have received further — than what I have done from Virginia and Maryland, and would further beg the Favour of You, if it would not be too much Trouble, to send me a Collection of the Treaties made in — your Honour's Government with the Indians.

Enclosed is the Declaration of one Patten (the Messenger which I believe You sent to Me) made sometime ago to some Merchants at Boston; I send it, tho it is most probable, he hath been more particular already in his Information given yourself. An Extract likewise of one Smith's Letter to me, which he hath verified before me and the Council by his Oath. — and I shall send your Honour an Account by next Post, of the several Encroachments made by the French in Nova Scotia, and upon Saint John's River; and of the Intelligence I have very lately received of one making upon the River Shennebeck: but the Departure of this Post will not allow me more time than to assure You that I am with a most real Esteem and Regard

Sir

Your most humble and
most obedient Servant

W Shirley.

Extract from Mr. Smith's Letter to Governor Shirley dated December 24th 1753 from Cape Cod in the Massachusets Bay.

September the 29th 1752 the Castor or Beaver Company of Quebec petitioned the Governor and Council of Canada to have a Fort erected on or near a River called by the French la Riviere Blanche for the Support and Strength of their Indian Commerce which they alledged was encroached upon by the English Traders — This was forthwith granted by the Governor and Council, and an Army of Six Thousand Men to be forthwith raised and ready to march by the first of January 1753, which Body was to consist of 5000 Militia, 600 Indians and 400 Regulars, and when raised were thus to be disposed of; they were to be divided into Three Parties, and to march as follows viz. the first Party consisting of 2000 Militia and 300 on the 1st January 1753 under the Command of Capt. Murray; the second Party consisting of the same Number to be ready on the first of March under the Command of Monsieur Peyeonage and the third Party consisting of the Regulars and the Rest of the Militia to be ready to embark at Quebec on Board of Boats, which were to be provided for them by the 1st of May under the Command of Captain Lotbiniere Engineer: upon the Declaration of this Great Measures were so expeditiously taken, that Arms, Ammunition and Provisions with necessary Apparel were forthwith provided and dispersed of in proper Magazines throughout the Country for that Purpose by the beginning of December, and according to the Time limited by the Grant; the first Party began their March on new years Day 1753, the second Party in March, and the Remainder I saw embarked at Quebec on the 1st May on board 100 flat bottomed Boats built for the Expedition. We had every Day News before I left Canada of a great Sickness raging among them, so that the Hospitals at Montreal and Fort Frontenac were entirely crouded with their Sick, and several have deserted from them, and privately returned home, being terrified with the Thoughts of so long a March, all which greatly impairs their Force. This Party is to remain on the Command for three years. When I left Canada which was on the 18th of August last the Country People and Populace in general were greatly dissatisfied with their Government, on Accounts of their being so arbitrarily bereaved of their Children, so that seditious Libels and satirical Sonnets were the continual Cry of their Streets; for the suppressing of which an Act was made that if any Person sung or spoke any disrespectful Words against the Governor the Lord Intendant or Council exciting to

Mutiny

Mutiny or Sedition, should upon Conviction be forthwith imprisoned for a Year, unless proper Security for their future good Behaviour should be produced: this at first the Populace looked upon as only a Bugbear, till two or three were taken into Custody and proper Security obliged to be given; which Rigour pretty well silenced the Mob. Their common Cry was that their Governor by his sending such a Body of Men so far from Home, had an Intention to deliver the Country into the Hands of their Neighbours the New England Men, of whom the Canadians in general are mighty jealous. The Indian Traders with whom I have conversed inform me that la Riviere blanche is 500 Leagues from Quebec, and that it is in the British Territories; and further ..... that the English receiving Intelligence of their Schemes and Proceedings, they were afraid they would make Head against and drive them off.

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Mr George Croghan.

March 23. 1754.

May it please your Honour,

I here enclose a Speech made by a Frenchman at Logstown to the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese, after Mr Montour and myself left the Town, which Speech the Indians sent after me, and ordered me to send it immediately to your Honour, that You might see how they were treated by the French, and desired You might send a Copy of it to the Governor of Virginia. Mr Trent had received a Commission from the Governor of Virginia, and had enlisted about Seventy Men before I left Ohio; I left him and his Men at the Mouth of Mohongialo building a Fort, which seemed to give the Indians great Pleasure, and put them in high Spirits. I have heard nothing more particular since Mr Montour's Departure from Ohio worth mentioning to your Honour. I am

Your Honours
most obedient and
most humble Servant
Geo: Croghan.

A Speech made by Monsieur La Force the French Gendeman that was at Logs Town when Mr Montour and I left it to the Six Nations there.

Children,

I came here to know your Minds, whether You intend to side with the English or not, and without asking You I am convinced that You have thrown away your Fathers, and taken to your Brothers the English; and I tell You now that You have but a short Time to see the Sun, for in Twenty Days You and your Brothers the English shall all die.

The Speaker of the Six Nations made him this Reply.

Fathers,

You tell Us in Twenty Days We and our Brethren the English must all dye. I believe You speak true, that is, You intend to kill Us if You can; but I tell You to be strong and bring down your Soldiers, for We are ready to receive You in Battle but not in Peace. We are not afraid of You, and after an Engagement You will know who are the best Men, You or We.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

I am not insensible that an Absence from your Homes, at this busy Season of the Year, ...

meast

must be very inconvenient to your private affairs; for which Reason I should not have .... called You together, before the Time to which You stood adjourned, but that I thought the Service of his Majesty and the Interest of your Country required it.

In my several Messages during your late Session, to which I desire to refer You, I fully represented the dangerous Consequences that were to be apprehended from the Invasion made by the French, on Part of his Majesties Dominions; and, in Obedience to his Royal Orders, I prefsed You in the warmest Manner, to grant such Supplies of Men and Money, as might enable me to resist the hostile Attempts of these Invaders, and to repel Force by Force. – But for the Reasons set forth in your Answers, and particularly that You were "unacquainted with the "Result of the Government of Virginia, with Regard to this Invasion;" You declined granting the Supplies at that Time, and "judged it most prudent to wait until the Assembly of that "Colony had enabled their Governor to act in Obedience to the Royal Commands."

I am now to acquaint You Gentlemen, that since your Adjournment I have received .... from Governor Dinwiddie, the several Papers herewith laid before You; by which it will appear, that he is taking all imaginable Pains for the Security of his Majesties Dominions, so far as the Provision made by his Assembly will permit him to act; and that he is very impatient to know the Issue of your Deliberations on this Subject. I cannot therefore doubt but, agreable to the Professions in your Message of the Twenty Seventh of February, "of being ready and willing "to demonstrate your Duty and Loyalty, by giving such Sums of Money to the Kings Use upon "all suitable Occasions as may consist with your Circumstances, or can reasonably be expected from "this Province;" I say I cannot doubt but You will with the greatest Alacrity, lay hold on the present Opportunity of evincing the Sincerity of those Professions, by granting such an Aid to his Majesty, as may comport with the Circumstances of the Province, and be suitable to the Exigence of the Service. And in the doing of this, I hope You will be guided rather by the Importance of the Concern, than by the Example of other Colonies: it being found by Experience to be a very ill judged piece of Oeconomy to cramp an Enterprize of this Nature in the Article of Supplies, and that whatever is given on such Occasions, short of being .... sufficient to accomplish the Ends proposed, becomes, for the most Part, a Waste of so much Treasure, without answering any of the Purposes for which it was intended.

I have at present only to add my Request, that whatever You think proper to do on this Occasion may receive all the Dispatch the Nature of the Thing will admit of; the Season of the Year for action advancing so fast, that unless our Measures be speedily taken, they will, I fear, be rendered altogether unserviceable.

April 3d. 1754. James Hamilton.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

As You have signified to me your Willingness to provide for the Expence of sending Commissioners to Albany at the ensuing Treaty to be held there, and also of making a Present to the Indians of the Six Nations, on Behalf of this Province, I thought it incumbent on me to obtain the best Intelligence I was able, of what was proposed to be transacted at that Treaty, for the general Benefit and Advantage of these Colonies, and of every other Thing relating thereto which I conceived necessary for your Information, when You should take this Subject more particularly into Consideration.

With this View I wrote to Governor Delancey, whom the King has been pleased to set at the Head of this Convention, whose well known Abilities and Experience in Indian Affairs render him in every respect equal to the important Trust: and as he has been pleased, by his .. Letter of the First Instant to communicate his Sentiments fully and freely upon the several Points I imagine You will be desirous of being acquainted with, I have chosen to lay

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the same before You in his own Words; from whence, and from what Governor Shirley has so well said upon the same Subject, added to your own Knowledge of the present Circumstances of ..... affairs, You will be able to offer me your Advice upon this Occasion, to which You may be assured I shall pay the greatest Regard. And I must the rather insist on this, as without a perfect ..... Knowledge of your Sentiments, from whom all future Supplies, upon any Agreement to be made between the several Colonies must come, it will be very difficult, if not impossible, for me to give such Instructions to the Gentlemen Commissioners on the Part of this Province as may be ..... suitable and adequate to the Purpose.

James Hamilton.

April 4th. 1754.

Memorandum.

On the sixth of April, the Governor thought it necessary to send Mr. Weiser to Shamokin to the Sasquehannah Indians, to apprize them of the Intentions of the Connecticut People; and to enquire if any Correspondence and what was carried on between them and the Ohio Indians, and what Part they intended to act in the present Situation of affairs; and to give him a kind Reception with those Indians, the following Message was sent by him.

BRETHREN the Delawares and Shawonese at Wyominh on Sasquehannah,

As Conrad Weiser Esquire the Indian Interpreter of this Province is sent by me on Business with the Six Nations at Shamokin, I have ordered him to call on You, to enquire of your health and Affairs, having heard nothing from You for these many Years, tho' as Brethren I should have been well pleased with your News and Accounts of your Welfare.

Something has been intimated to me as if You had Cause of Complaint against some of our Inhabitants; if this should have any Foundation, and You have been in any respect ill used or ..... injured, I desire You will impart your Grievance to Mr Weiser, that he may lay it before me; and You may be assured I will see Justice done to You to your Satisfaction.

If You are or shall be informed of any News that may affect this Province or Yourselves, I desire You would send me your Informations by some careful Person that You shall think proper to entrust with it, and I will give him a Satisfaction for his Trouble.

I have no more at present than to assure You of the Continuance of my Regards for You, and all the Indians in your Neighbourhood.

Jas. Hamilton.

Philadelphia
6th. April 1754.

On the same Day, Two Members waited upon the Governor to acquaint him that "the House desired He would be pleased to inform them what Gentlemen he purposed to appoint as Commissioners for the intended Treaty at Albany." — To which his Honour was pleased to say, that "He intended to appoint Mr Penn and Mr Peters of the Council, and Mr Norris and Mr. Franklin of the Assembly, to be the Commissioners for this Province at the Treaty proposed to be held at Albany in June next."

On the Twelfth of April Two Members delivered the following Message to the Governor, and acquainted him, that the House proposed to make the Adjournment mentioned in their Message some time to morrow; and the Governor was pleased to say, he would take it into his Consideration, and return an Answer to the House to morrow morning, if He found it necessary.

May

Pennsylvania. 1754.

May it please the Governor,

Whenever the Service of the King, or the Interest of the Country, may appear to require their attendance in Assembly, We hope the Representatives of the People will always as they have now done pay a ready and chearful Obedience to the Governor's Call, however inconvenient the Season may be with respect to their private affairs: we are nevertheless thankful to the Governor for his considerate Regard to our Circumstances on the present Occasion, expressed in his Message of the Third Instant.

And We now beg Leave to inform the Governor, that We have had that Message under our serious Consideration ever since it came down to the House; but, after all our Debates thereupon, We find that near one half of the Members are for various Reasons against granting any Money to the King's Use at this Time; and those who are for granting, differ so widely in their Sentiments concerning the Sum, that there seems at present no Possibility of their agreeing, except in such a Sum, as, in the Judgment of many of them, is quite ..... disproportionate to the Occasion: therefore, and that the Members may have an Opportunity of consulting their Constituents on this important Affair, we are now enclined to adjourn to the Thirteenth of the next Month.

We thank the Governor for his very obliging Message of the Fourth Instant, and shall take the same and the Papers therewith communicated to Us under Consideration, and offer our Sentiments to the Governor on the weighty Matters they contain at our next Meeting. At the same time We shall provide for the Expences of the Commissioners the Governor has been pleased to nominate for the Treaty at Albany, of whom We approve, and have now voted a Present of Five Hundred Pounds, to be by them delivered to the Indians on that Occasion, in behalf of this Province.

Signd
By Order of the House
Isaac Norris, Speaker.

In Assembly.
12th April 1754.

On the thirteenth of April, the Governor by the Secretary, sent down to the House the following Message.

Gentlemen,

I called You to meet me in Assembly before the Time to which You stood adjourned, to give You an Opportunity of demonstrating your Duty to the King, by granting such an Aid to his Majesty, as might be sufficient, in Conjunction with the other Colonies, to secure his Dominions against any further Invasion by the French, and, if need should be, to repel the Invaders; and to that Purpose I sent You a Message on the Third Instant. — It could not therefore but surprize me to find that after so long Deliberation, the first Occasion of my hearing from You on that Subject should be to signify to me your Inclination to adjourn to the Thirteenth of May next, without having in any Shape provided for the Service recommended to You.

I am very unwilling to have any Difference with You on this or any other Occasion, where it can possibly be avoided; and therefore, after declaring to You my Opinion, that so long an Adjournment will render any Thing You can then propose to do for his Majesties Service ineffectual to the Ends he has been pleased to recommend, I shall leave You to act therein, as to yourselves shall seem most expedient.

I am pleased, nevertheless, with your Determination to provide for the Expences of the Gentlemen to be appointed on the Part of this Province, for conducting the Treaty at Albany, and with the Sum voted as a Present to the Indians on that Occasion. It is likewise a Satisfaction to me to find that the Nomination I have made of Commissioners for that Service is agreable to You.

April 13th. 1754.

James Hamilton.

and

And on the same Day Two Members waited on the Governor and acquainted him, that the House having considered his Message, had thought it proper to shorten the ..... adjournment mentioned in their Message of Yesternight, and to adjourn to the Sixth of the Month called May next.

And then the House adjourned to the Sixth Day of May next.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday the Seventh of May 1754.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn, William Till, Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shewmaker, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The House last Night acquainted the Governor by Two Members that they were met according to their adjournment, and were ready to receive any Thing He might have to lay before them.

The several Letters and Papers following were read.

A Letter from Governor Hamilton to Governor Dinwiddie

Philadelphia 18th April 1754.

Sir.

I send this by Express to acquaint You that Our Assembly has once more broke up without enabling me to afford You any Assistance either in Men or Money on the present Expedition to Ohio. They had once agreed to vote Money for the Kings Use and to leave the Application of it to me, but afterwards differed about the Quantum, whether it should be Ten Thousand or Five Thousand Pounds. I should at the same time let You know that there was only a Majority of Two, that were for granting any Supplies at all; and they, being unable to agree among themselves with respect to the Sum, proposed to adjourn for the present and to meet again on the Sixth of May.

In order that You may not place too great a Reliance on the Assistance You had Reason to expect from this Province, I now think it incumbent on me to acquaint You, that in my Opinion, it is altogether uncertain whether any Thing will be done by our Assembly at their next Meeting that may contribute to the Success of the Expedition. But as I still entertain Hopes of it, I must desire the Favour of your Opinion, upon a Supposition that they give either of the forementioned Sums, in what manner it may be disposed of most to the Advantage of the Service, and to the Scheme formed by You for his Majesties Interest.

After so long a Delay as this Adjournment must occasion, it seems scarce possible that a Body of Men from hence can be raised, armed, victualled and marched through such an Extent of rough Country so as to arrive in time to give You any Assistance in the making a Lodgment, or in the building your Forts; since if the French are really bent on obstructing your Settlement, after having had Notice of your Intentions, they will undoubtedly endeavour to bring a superior Force against You before You can have effected it; and considering the little Assistance You have had from the other Colonies, I am fearful they will be able to prevail. But even taking it for granted that I was able to raise a Number of Men for this Service, yet as it is not possible from the religious Scruples of our Assembly to procure an Act to establish military Discipline How could

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MINUTES

OF THE

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF PENNSYLVANIA.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 2d April, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Assembly being to meet this Night by Summons, the Governor ordered the Secretary to read the several Letters that had passed between him and the other Governors with whom He had corresponded, together with the Draughts of Two Messages prepared by him on the Subject Matter thereof, which were approved, and the Secretary was ordered to deliver them, the first to-morrow Morning and the second in the afternoon.

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A Letter from Governor Hamilton to Governor Dinwiddie.

"Sir:

"Ever since I had the Honour to write You of the twenty-sixth of February I have been labouring indefatigably with my Assembly to induce them to act vigorously on the present critical Juncture of Affairs at Ohio, and to grant such Supplies as might enable us to resist the Invasions of the French on that Part of his Majestie's Dominions, and thereby not only comply with the King's just Expectations from Us but likewise consult the Preservation of our own Province and Others his Majestie's Colonies on this Continent; And I heartily wish it were in my Power to give You a more favourable Account of their Proceedings on that head than I am yet able to do. After having sat and canvassed this affair for near Five Weeks together, they at length on the ninth Instant adjourned themselves

to the sixth of May, which by our Constitution they have a Right to do without having at all provided for this Service, as in Duty to their King and Country they ought to have done. As I am well acquainted with their religious Scruples I never expected they would appropriate Money for the Purpose of War or Warlike Preparations, but thought they might have been brought to make a handsome Grant to the King's Use, and have left the Disposition of it to me, as they have done upon other Occasions of the like Nature; and had I been able with Certainty to acquaint them of the Measures taken by your Colony, it is not improbable but that they might have been induced upon this Occasion to have done something of the same kind, but I much doubt whether in such a Proportion as the present Emergency requires. It was, therefore, particularly unfortunate that your Letter came not to my Hands till the Day after their Adjournment, that I might have made known to them the Steps that are taking by your Government, since their Want of Information in that particular was alledged as the principal Reason of their declining to do any Thing at this Time. Whether this be any Thing more than an Excuse for not complying with the King's Commands, or whether they are really sincere in their Profession of demonstrating their Loyalty by granting to his Majesty a Supply in any degree answerable to the present Exigency, will be made apparent in a short time, for upon the Arrival of your Express and upon considering that so long an Adjournment as to the sixth of May would be in Effect to prevent any Measures being taken for that Purpose for this Year, I have issued Writs for calling them together on the second of next Month, when I shall not fail again to represent to them the absolute Necessity of their taking vigorous and expeditious Measures in this very critical and dangerous Situation of our Affairs. But in order to enable me to do this with the greater Force, I must beg the Favour of your Explanation upon the following Particulars in the fullest Manner possible: What Number of Men are actually raised and by You proposed to be raised, and for what Time are they engaged? What Arms, Cloathing, and Bedding are they to be provided with? For how long time are they to be victualled, of what Kind, and in what Proportion to each man? What Quantity of Liquors and of what sort to each Man? How are the Provisions, Cannon, and Warlike Stores to be transported to Ohio? What is the Number of your Cannon, the Quantity of Powder, and other Warlike Stores? Do the Men receive a Bounty on enlisting, and what pay by the Day or Month? Are your Forces to be regimented, and who is to command in chief? In case you should be joined by a Body of Indians, is it proposed that they enter into pay and be victualled, cloathed, &c. as the other men, or in what other Manner are they to be treated? What is proposed by you to be done at Ohio this Summer? If you should be able to erect one or more Forts or Places of Security this Summer, how many men do you propose to leave in Garrison during the Winter?

Are there a Number of Serviceable Arms to be purchased in your Colony in case I should want them? I must likewise desire you will favour me with a Copy of your Act of Assembly for raising and appropriating the said Ten Thousand Pounds, as I may have Occasion to make use of some Parts of it here.

"Upon perusing your Letter I confess myself to have been surprized at finding that your Assembly had voted only the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds for this Expedition, which according to our Estimation will not equip and maintain more than Four Hundred Men for Six or Seven Months (but of this, as I am perfectly unacquainted with matters of this Kind, I should be glad to have your Sentiments), and these Men, unless they are supported by a great Body of Indians or Men from the other Colonies, will be vastly inferior to the Forces the French will be able to bring against them, if our accounts are to be depended on. What assistance, indeed, you can rely upon from the other Colonies I am a Stranger to, but I cannot see from whence any great Matters are to be expected unless from this Province, which as I before observed is altogether uncertain; for my own Part, had I found our Assembly in a Disposition to give, I never proposed asking them for fewer than a thousand Men, for unless we are able to make a good and secure Lodgment against the Enemy this Summer it is clear that the whole Expence of the Armament will be thrown away and perhaps the Lives of many of his Majestie's Subjects sacrificed to little or no Purpose.

"I return You Thanks for the kind Offer You are pleased to make of your Services to this Colony at the Meeting which You proposed to hold in May at Winchester. I heartily wish You Health to undergo the Fatigue of the Journey and Success in your Endeavours to promote the Union between the Northern and Southren Indians, which at this time would be peculiarly happy, being the most likely means to defeat the Purposes of the French.

"Having thus mentioned every Thing that appears to me material at present, I have only to desire You will please to favour me with your Answer by my Express, with as little Delay as possible, that I may be able to speak to my Assembly thereupon immediately upon their Meeting, there being no Time to be lost if any thing is intended to be done to Purpose.

"I am with very great Respect, Sir,

"Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"Philadelphia, 13th March, 1754.

"The Honourable ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Esquire."

Another Letter from Governor Hamilton to Governor Dinwiddie:

"Sir:

"The Invasions lately made by the French on Parts of his Majes-

tie's Dominions having engaged me to enquire very particularly into the Situation of their Forts, and likewise into the Bounds and Extent of this Province to the Westward, I have from thence the greatest Reason to believe that not only the French Forts but also the Forks of Mohongialo (where You propose to erect One and to grant away Two hundred Thousand Acres of Land to such as shall engage in the Intended Expedition to Ohio) are really within the Limits of Pennsylvania. In Duty to my Constituents, therefore, I cannot but remind You of what I had the Honour to write You some time ago upon this Subject, and transcribed for your Consideration the following Extracts from Two Letters of the Honourable Proprietor Thomas Penn in relation to this Matter:

"*Extract of a Letter from the Honourable Thomas Penn, Esquire, to James Hamilton, Esquire, the ninth of March*, 1752.

"'As we cannot expect our Assembly will do any thing in this Matter, I desire You will enter into any reasonable Measures to assist the Governor of Virginia to build a Fort there, to Wit at Ohio, taking some Acknowledgement from him that this Settlement shall not be made Use of to prejudice our Right to that Country, at the same time You give him Assurance the Setlers shall enjoy the Lands they bona fide settle on the common Quit Rent, which is what I have agreed with Mr. Hanbury here.'

"*Extract of a Letter from the Honourable Thomas Penn, Esquire, to James Hamilton, Esquire, the thirteenth of July*, 1752.

"'I hope you will, as I wrote You on the ninth of March, acquaint the Governor of Virginia that We consent to this (that is to the building of a Fort at Ohio) without Prejudice to our Right to the Land, in case it should be found to lye within our Province, to be granted to the bona fide Settlers on the same Rent and Conditions as they are to have it from Virginia.'

"As Mr. Penn's Expectations herein appears to me extreamly reasonable, and cannot, I apprehend, at all interfere with the well-judged Encouragement You have thought fit to promise to such as shall enter into this Service. I flatter myself You will find no Difficulty in making the acknowledgement therein mentioned, as I on my Part am ready to give You any Assurance that the bona fide Setlers shall be entitled to the Lands under this Government on the same Rent and Conditions as are granted by You. I could have wished your Proclamation had ascertained the Number of Acres to be allotted to each private Man, which I think ought not to be less than Two Hundred to every Settler; my Reason for this is the having been informed that in some Expeditions carried on to the Northward where the like Encouragement had been promised, a very partial Distribution of the Lands was afterwards made among the Officers, to the great Injury and Disappointment of the Soldiers, which I would feign hope will not be the Case here, inasmuch as

the Expectation of obtaining Settlements in so good a Country as that is represented will be the principal Inducement to most of those who will go from this Province, of whom I should not doubt being able to procure a very considerable number were I properly supported by the Assembly.

"I am, Sir, Your very humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"Philadelphia, 13th March, 1754.

"The Honourable ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Esq."

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A Letter from the Governor of Virginia to Governor Hamilton.

"WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia, March 21st, 1754.

"Sir:

"Last Night I received your Letter of the 13th Currant by your Express. I am sensible of the Endeavours You in Course must have taken with your Assembly for a mutual Supply agreeable to His Majesty's Commands to all the Governors on this Continent; and it gives me much Concern & Surprize that the Gentlemen of Your Assembly should be so backward in qualifying You to resist the Invasions of the French on his Majestie's Lands on the Ohio, which if once they have a quiet Settlement there the Incursions of those People with their Indians on our present Settlements will be constantly attended with Robberies and Murders, which was the Case last Year when some of their Indians came to our Frontiers, Murder'd a Man, his Wife, and five Children, robbed them of all they had, and left their Bodies to be tore to pieces by the wild Beasts; this is no more than what may be annually expected from them.

"His Majestie's Orders to me are to prevent their settling on His Lands on the Ohio; & further orders me to build two or three Forts on that River, not doubting but the neighbouring Governments will assist me to put these his Commands in due Execution. He has further ordered Two of the Independant Companies at New York and one from Carolina to be sent hither to be under my Command. I have accordingly sent Expresses to these Colonies to send these Companies with all possible Dispatch; when arrived I propose sending them with the Forces raised here and the neighbouring Colonies to the Ohio.

"Our Assembly were very backward in raising Money, and the Sum raised is not half what I expected; but in Compliance with His Majestie's Orders I am willing to do all in my Power to erect a Fort. In January I commissioned William Trent to raise One Hundred Men; he had got Seventy and has begun a Fort at the Forks of Monhongialo. His Majesty sent me out Thirty Pieces of

Cannon, Four-Pounders, with Carriages and all other necessary Impliments, with Eighty Barrells of Gun Powder. I have sent Ten of the Guns and One-Third of their Impliments to Alexandria, from thence to be transported to Will's Creek, and so to the Ohio in Waggons. They are a little too heavy, therefore I only sent Ten to see if they can be properly carried out; and am of Opinion when our Assembly comes to think seriously of the Importance of this Expedition they will on their next Meeting grant a much larger Supply; which would have been more eligible to have done it at once, but hope the small sum now given will be no Precedent to your Assembly, but that they will show themselves loyal Subjects, and consider His Majestie's Lands are likely to be invaded, and that the Invaders will not remain quiet there, but constantly harrass our Settlements on our Frontiers.

"We are in great Want of proper Officers, but have from the best Recommendations and Informations Commissioned the best I could meet with. The chief Command is invested in Col. Joshua Frey, a Man of good sense, and one of our best Mathematicians; the Number of Men to be raised now is only Three Hundred, besides those Captain Trent has raised and now on the Ohio. If we can only erect a Fort or Two as a mark of Possession, it will be doing something, but I am much cramped by the narrow Dispositions of our Assembly. The Time the Men are to be kept in Pay could not be determined.

"I sent up Three Hundred small Arms to this small Regiment, with Powder and Shot, Thirty Tents; they propose being in an Uniform by having a Red Coat and Breeches, which they are willing the Charge should be stopped out of their Pay. I have ordered Six Months' Provisions, vizt Beef, Pork, and Flour, but this Quantity must be encreased, as we must supply our Friendly Indians with Provisions, as the Supply is to be carried out to the Ohio. I leave the Proportion to be given to each Man to the Commanding Officer.

"I ordered a Quantity of Rum to be sent out to have some on their March, and when they come to work in erecting the Forts, a Quart of Rum to every Four Men ℔ day. The Guns, &^{ca} to be transported as above. The Men receive each a Pistole on their enlisting and Eight Pence ℔ day Pay. The Colonel Fifteen Shillings, Lieutenant Colonel Twelve Shillings and Sixpence, Major Ten Shillings, Captains Eight Shillings, Lieutenants Four Shillings, and Ensigns Three Shillings ℔ day. Surgeon Four Shillings, Seargeants One Shilling, Drummer One Shilling.

"I have wrote the Catawbas and the Cherokees to join our Forces on the Ohio in April next; I promised them a Present from their Father the King next Year; they must have Provisions & Arms, but I did not engage them any cloathing; the Messenger I sent to them is not yet return'd. I shall be glad if we can this Summer erect Two Forts, which, if effected, I propose leaving the Three In-

dependant Companies to remain in them all Winter. We have not above Three Hundred and Fifty Small Arms remaining in our Magazine, some thereof I believe must be sent to the Indians, and I know of none to be sold here.

"I think the above is a full Answer to Your Queries, & am of Opinion if we cannot effect building the Forts before the French come down the River, that in that Case when our whole Force are collected together we should make a Push to dispossess them of any settlement they should presume to make there.

"Your Calculation is very right in regard to the small Sum granted by our Assembly; but hope they will at next Meeting encrease that Sum by a further vote.

Our Forces to be sure will be much inferior to the French unless the other Colonies are more Liberal and sanguine than ours has been, and you know the Uncertainty of depending on the Indians; but I always had much Dependance on the Supply from your Province, and One Thousand Men from You would give great Life to the Expedition, and in that case should have Reason to expect Success.

"I am in hopes the Men enlisted here will be at Alexandria this Week, and as Captain Trent has wrote earnestly for some Men to be sent out to his Aid, I wrote last Monday to March what Forces were at Alexandria immediately for the Ohio to join him, and ordered them to send a Runner before them that they may not be surprized.

"If our Assembly had granted even this little Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds last November, I think it more than probable that our Fort might have been finished before this Time; but I could not then prevail with them, which occasioned my proroguing them with some Anger. I have had a very uphill Affair to manage, and indeed I never met with so much Trouble in any Thing I had the Management of as this.

"Pray let me know as soon as possible the Determination of your Assembly, which if they act with Spirit will be very great Encouragement to Ours.

"I remain with very great Respect, Sir,

"Your most obedient humble Servant,

"ROBT. DINWIDDIE.

"Governor HAMILTON."

Another Letter from the Governor of Virginia to Governor Hamilton.

"WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia, March 21st, 1754.

"Sir:

"Your former Letter of the twenty-fifth of February gave me much Concern for your ill State of Health, but I hope you are now

well recovered and shall be glad to hear of a full Confirmation thereof.

"Our Assembly in November last spent a great deal of their Time in complaining of my taking a Pistole Fee for Sealing and Signing all Patents for Land. This Fee was agreeable to my Instructions, established by the unanimous Consent of the Council and approved by the Lords for Trade and Plantations; however they were so violently warm thereon that they have addressed his Majesty on this trifling Fee and sent a Person home on Purpose to negotiate this Affair. They made several ill-natured and uncommon Resolves, which occasioned my proroguing them with some Marks of Anger.

"Your private Letter of the Thirteenth Currant I have duly read and am much misled by our Surveyors if the Forks of Mohongialo be within the Limits of your Proprietor's Grant. I have for some time wrote home to have the Line run, to have the Boundaries properly known, that I may be able to appoint Magistrates on the Ohio (if in this Government) to keep the Traders and Others in good Order, and I presume soon there will be Commissioners appointed for that Service.

"In the mean time, that no Hindrance may be given to our intended Expedition, I think it is highly reasonable if these Lands are in your Proprietor's Grant that the Settlers thereon should pay the Quit Rents to Mr. Penn and not to his Majesty; and therefore as much as lies in my Power I agree thereto, after the Time granted them by my Proclamation to be clear of Quit Rents ceases: but Surely I am from all Hands assured that Log's Town is far to the West of Mr. Penn's Grant. I did not care to promise every private Man a certain Quantity of Land, as I find it agreeable to their Behaviour and Recommendation of their Court Martial and to raise an Emulation among them. I shall do all in my Power to prevent the Injury you justly observe on former Encouragements of the like kind. I am of Opinion if we Succeed that the New Settlers will be the greatest Barrier, and therefore the Land divided among Numbers will be much more eligible.

"I shall be in pain till I hear from You of the Result of your Assembly. The March from your Province to Will's Creek I think much easier and shorter Distance than from this.

"I enclose You the Act passed last Session for Ten Thousand Pounds, which I am ashamed of as it is so much clogged; nothing but the Emergency of our present Affairs would have allowed me to pass it. I also send you my Speeches and their addresses to me last Sessions.

"I am with very great Respect and Esteem,

"Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

"ROBERT DINWIDDIE.

"P. S.—I trouble you with a Letter to the Governor of New

York, which I entreat may be sent him with all possible Expedition.

"GOVERNOR HAMILTON."

—

A Letter from Governor DeLancey to Governor Hamilton.

"Sir:

"Col. Johnson found out Stephen Coffen, the Englishman that deserted from the French in their Return from Ohio as they passed Oswego, and has examined him upon Oath. I enclose you a Copy of his Examination which differs widely from the account I received from Lieutenant Holland, commanding Officer at Oswego. I have sent one Copy to Governor Dinwiddie, and as the Express waits I will not detain him any longer, and therefore must beg the Favour of you to send one to Governor Sharpe.

"I am, Sir, Your most Obedient and humble Servant,

"JAMES DELANCEY.

"New York, 19th February, 1754.

"GOVERNOR HAMILTON."

—

Deposition of Stephen Coffen.

"Stephen Coffen of full age being duly sworn deposeth and saith: that he was taken Prisoner by the French and Indians of Canada at Menis, in the Year 1747, under the Command of Major Noble, from whence he was brought to an Indian Village called Actagouche about Fifteen Leagues to the Westward of Chebucta, where he was kept three Weeks Prisoner; from thence was carried to a French Settlement called Beaubasin, where the French had a Wooden Fort then Garrisoned with Twenty-Five Men; remained there Two Months; from thence they took him to Gaspey, a considerable Fishing place in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, near to the Entrance of the River; there are about Three Hundred Families settled there; they kept him there working near Four Years; then he was brought to a place called Ramouski, inhabited by about Twenty-Five French Families, from which Place he sailed two Years to and from Quebec in a Sloop carrying Beaver and Furrs, Salmon, &ca. to Quebec, and in return brought back Brandy, Dry Goods, &ca.; during the Time of the Deponent's residing at Quebec he said it was commonly talked or reported that they the French intended to settle as many Families as they could to the Westward, to make up for the Loss of Two of their Towns sunk in the West Indies by an Earthquake. The Deponent further saith that the Navigation up the River Saint Lawrence is very dangerous, particu-

larly so at the Isle aux Coudres and the Isle Orleans; the North Side of the former is the best Navigation, the South Side being very rapid and rocky, and the Channel not above Two Hundred Yards wide, about six Fathom Water, whereas in the North Channel there is Fifteen Fathom; at the North East End of the latter begin Two Sand Banks, which extend a League down said River; the Channel is between both Banks, and pretty near the Middle of the River, from thence to the Town of Quebec good Navigation, being Fifteen Fathom all the Way. The Deponent says there is no possibility of going up said River without the Tide serves or a strong North-East Wind, especially at the Two aforementioned Islands. In September, 1752, the Deponent was in Quebec and endeavoring to agree with some Indians to convey him to his own country, New England, which the Indians acquainted the Governor of, who immediately ordered him to Goal, where he lay three Months. At the Time of his Releasment the French were preparing for a March to Belle Riviere, or Ohio, when he offered his Service, but was rejected by the Governor General Le Cain. He the said General setting out for Mont Real about the Third of January, 1753, to view and forward the Forces; the Deponent applied to Major Ramsay for Liberty to go with the Army to Ohio, who told him he would ask the Lieutenant De Rouy, who agreed to it, upon which he was equipped as a Soldier and sent with a Detachment of Three Hundred Men to Montreal, under the Command or Monsieur Babeer, who set off immediately with said Command by Land and Ice for Lake Erie; they in their Way stopped a couple of Days to refresh themselves at Cadarahqui Fort, also at Taranto on the North side of Lake Ontario, then at Niagara Fort Fifteen Days; from thence set off by Water, being April, and arrived at Chadakoin, on Lake Erie, where they were ordered to fell Timber and prepare it for building a Fort there according to the Governor's Instructions; but Mr. Morang coming up with Five Hundred Men and Twenty Indians put a Stop to the erecting a Fort at that Place by reason of his not liking the Situation, and the River of Chadakoins being too shallow to carry any Craft with Provisions, &ca. to Belle Riviere. The Deponent says there arose a warm Debate between Messieurs Babeer and Morang thereon, the first insisting on building a Fort there agreable to his Instructions, otherwise on Morang's giving him an Instrument in Writing to satisfy the Governor in that Point, which Morang did, and then ordered Monsieur Mercie, who was both Commissary and Engineer, to go along said Lake and look for a good Situation, which he found and returned in three Days, it being Fifteen Leagues to the South-West of Chadakoin; they were then all ordered to repair thither; when they arrived there were about Twenty Indians fishing in the Lake, who immediately quit it on seeing the French; they fell to Work and built a square Fort of Chesnut Logs, squared and lapped over each other to the Height of Fifteen Feet, it is

about one hundred and twenty square--a Log House in each Square —a Gate to the Southward and another to the Northward, not one Port Hole cut in any Part of it when finished—they called it Fort *Le Presque Isle*. The Indians who came from Canada with them returned very much out of Temper, owing as it was said among the Army to Morang's dogged Behaviour and ill Usage of them (but they the Indians said at Oswego it was owing to the French's misleading them by telling them Falshoods, which they said they had now found out) and left them. As soon as the Fort was finished they marched Southward, cutting a Waggon Road through a fine level Country twenty-one Miles to the River aux Bœufs (leaving Captain Derponteney with an hundred Men to garrison the Fort La Briske Isle); they fell to Work cutting Timber, Boards, &ca. for another Fort, while Mr. Morang ordered Monsieur Bite with Fifty Men to a Place called by the Indians Ganagarahhare, or the Banks of Belle Reviere, where the River aux Bœufs empties into it; in the meantime Morang had Ninety large Boats or Battoes made to carry down the Baggage and Provisions, &ca. to said Place. Monsieur Bite on coming to said Indian Place was asked what he wanted or intended. He, upon answering it was their Father the Governor of Canada's Intention to build a Trading House for their and all their Brethren's Conveniency, was told by the Indians that the Lands were their's, and that they would not have them build upon it. The said Monsieur Bite returning, met two Englishmen, Traders, with their Horses and Goods, whom they Bound and brought Prisoners to Morang, who ordered them to Canada in Irons. The said Bite reported to Morang the Situation was good, but the Water in the River aux Bœuf too low at that time to carry down any Craft with Provisions, &ca.; a few Days after the deponent says that about one hundred Indians called by the French the Loos, came to the Fort La Riviere aux Bœuff to see what the French were doing; that Monsieur Morang treated them very kindly, and then asked them to carry down some Stores, &a. to the Belle Riviere on Horseback for Payment, which he immediately advanced them on their undertaking to do it. They set off with full Loads, but never delivered them to the French, which incensed them very much, being not only a Loss but a great Disappointment. Morang, a man of a very peevish, cholerick Disposition, meeting with those and other Crosses, and finding the Season of the Year too far advanced to build the Third Fort, called all his Officers together and told them that as he had engaged and firmly promised the Governor to finish the Three Forts that Season, and not being able to fulfil the same was both Afraid and Ashamed to return to Canada, being sensible he had now forfeited the Governor's Favour for ever; wherefore rather than live in Disgrace he begged they would take him (as he then sat in a Carriage made for him, being very Sick some time) and seat him in the middle of the Fort and then set Fire to it and let him perish in the

Flames, which was rejected by the Officers, who (the Deponent says) had not the least regard for him, as he had behaved very ill to them all in general. The Deponent further Saith that about eight Days before he left the Fort La Briske Isle, Chevalier Le Crake arrived Express from Canada in a Birch Canoe worked by Ten Men, with Orders (as the Deponent afterwards heard) from the Governor Le Cain to Morang to make all the Preparation possible against the Spring of the Year to build them Two Forts at Chadokoin, one of them by Lake Erie the other at the End of the Carrying Place at Lake Chadokoin, which Carrying Place is Fifteen Miles from one Lake to the Other. The said Chevalier brought for Monsieur Morang a Cross of Saint Louis which the Rest of the Officers would not allow him to take until the Governor was acquainted of his Conduct and Behaviour. The Chevalier returned immediately to Canada. After which, the Deponent saith, when the Fort La Riviere aux Bœufs was finished (which is built of Wood Stockadoed Triangularwise, and has Two Log Houses in the inside), Monsieur Morang ordered all the Party to return to Canada for the Winter Season except Three Hundred Men which he kept to Garrison both Forts and prepare Materials against the Spring for the building other Forts. He also sent Jean Cœur, an Officer and Interpreter, to stay the Winter among the Indians on Ohio, in order to prevail with them not only to allow the Building Forts on their Lands, but also to perswade them if possible to join the French Interest against the English. The Deponent further saith that on the twenty eighth of October last he set off for Canada under the Command of Captain Deman, who had the Command of twenty two Battoes with twenty Men in each Battoe, the Remainder being Seven Hundred and Sixty Men followed in a few Days, the thirtieth arrived at Chadakoin, where they stayed four Days, during which Time Monsieur Peon with Two Hundred Men cut a Waggon Road over the Carrying Place from Lake Erie to Lake Chadakoin, being fifteen Miles, viewed the Situation, which proved to their liking, so set off November the Third for Niagara where We arrived the Sixth. It is a very poor rotten old Wooden Fort with Twenty-Five Men in it, they talked of rebuilding it next Summer. We left Fifty Men there to build Battoes for the Army against the Spring, also a Store House for Provisions, Stores &^{ca}. staid here two Days, then set off for Canada.—All Hands being fatigued with rowing all night, ordered to put ashore to Breakfast within a Mile of Oswego Garrison. At which Time the Deponent saith that He with a Frenchman slipped off and got to the Fort, where they were both concealed until the Army passed; from thence he came here. The Deponent further saith that besides the Three Hundred Men with which he went up first under the Command of Monsieur Babeer, and the Five Hundred Men Morang brought up afterwards, there came at different Times with Stores, &^{ca}. Seven Hundred more, which made in all Fifteen Hundred Hen, Three Hundred of which remained to Garrison the

Two Forts, Fifty at Niagara, the Rest all returned to Canada, and talked of going up again this Winter so as to be there the begining of April. They had Two Six Pounders and Seven Four Pounders which they intended to have planted in the Fort at Ganagarahhare, which was to have been called the Governor's Fort, but as that was not built they left the Guns in the Fort La Riviere aux Bœufs, where Morang commands; further the Deponent saith not.

his
"STEPHEN ⋈ COFFEN,
mark

"Sworn before me this 10th Day of January, 1754.

WM. JOHNSON,

"New York, 26th February, 1754, A true Copy examined by
GEO. BANYOR, D. Cl. Con."

—

Another Letter from Governor De Lancey to Governor Hamilton.

"New York, 1st April, 1754.

"Sir:

"I am to acknowledge Three of your Letters of the 18th, the 25th, and 27th Instant: the two latter requiring no particular answer I apply myself to the first, in which you desire my Opinion of the Sentiments of the Members of our Assembly on the Ohio affair. I have no opportunity of conversing with any but those of this City; and altho' I shall press the Matter earnestly upon them, Yet I believe from what I can learn, as I am commanded to send two of the Independant Companies to Virginia the Assembly will hardly be brought further than to give a Supply for their Transportation and Provisions for some time, the Reasons they will urge for this will be that the Fort at Oswego wants Repairs and I am under a Necessity of pressing upon them the providing for a double Garrison there—as the French in their Way to the Ohio pass by that Place they might surprise it if not well garrisoned; and I cannot doubt but if the French are attacked and driven from Ohio they will endeavour to take Revenge on Oswego should they find it weak and unprovided. There is another Thing I shall think it necessary to recommend to them, and that is to build a Fort or Forts to the Northward of Albany to guard that Frontier against the Incursions of the French or their Indians, and also some Fort in the Indian Country, to encourage them into a Dependance or at least a greater Confidence than they now seem to place in Us; and in the latter I would flatter myself that the neighbouring Governments will join in the Expence of the Measure, seeming to me to be of common Concern and general Utility to all these Colonies; for I am persuaded if the Six Nations are once convinced that they can and will be protected by these

Colonies, they will be ready to join Us; their Backwardness proceeding rather from their Fear of the active Spirit of the French than from any Good Will they bear them; and if the Indians are secured, and any Difference should arise between them and the French, they will gladly make a Peace and cultivate it with all the Southern Indians in alliance with his Majestie's Subjects on this Continent. As these Things will inevitably occasion a great Expence, I doubt whether the Assembly will go further than I hinted above.

"I am glad your Assembly are willing to bear the Expence of sending Commissioners to Albany; if any of your Friends should come on that Service, I shall be desirous of shewing them all the Civility I can beside what is due to their Character.

"As to the three Heads on which You desire Information—the Value of the Present from his Majesty, whether any presents are expected from the other Governments, and what is proposed to be transacted at this Treaty. The Present sent by his Majesty from the Board of Ordinance consists of 400 Fire Arms, only Part come, some large Bars of Lead for Ball, 30 Barrels of Powder, and 10,000 Flints; and from the late Sir Danvers Osborn's Agent Mr. Milliquet, about £300 Sterling. The Assembly of this Province have voted £800 Currency, part of which I am told will be expended in maintaining the Indians at Albany, and in their Return.

"Mr. Shirley acquaints me he shall send Commissioners, but with what Present I know not, nor can I say any Thing with Certainty as to the other Governments. As his Majesty has been graciously pleased to order the Indians a Present, and has directed the several Governments to send Commissioners at this Interview, the Indians upon seeing them there will expect a Present from each Province, and I think it cannot fail of having a considerable Influence on their Minds when they perceive the Governments are acting in Concert, and are told that in so doing they obey the great King their Father on the other side of the Lake, which may make them expect the Continuance of such an Union of Counsels, and embolden them to act with Vigour in the British Interest against the French.

"As to what is proposed to be transacted at the Interview for the general Benefit of the Colonies, You will perceive by the enclosed * Extract of a Letter from the Lords of Trade that their Lordships expect a Treaty to be made in his Majestie's Name between the Indians and all the Provinces. To which I shall add, the uniting all the Indians if possible that are in alliance with us into one firm and lasting peace, and to this Purpose to lay before them their Folly in waging War against each other when they are Children of the same Father and are all Brethren to the English; to

* Entered in Minute of the 13th Feby., 1754.

represent the Artifice of the French in persuading them into so absurd a measure, to alarm them at the French building Forts on the Lands conquered by and belonging to them on the Lake Erie and Ohio River, and thereby excluding them from a free and open Communication with the far Indians and those in Alliance with us; and principally to concert measures for building Forts in such parts of the Indian Country for their Protection as may encourage them to declare openly and cordially for us by seeing their Wives and Children will be secured and a retreat afforded for themselves when overpowered and pursued by the Enemy. If something of this Kind be done—some reasonable and equal Plan concerted of Expence and Operations, I am persuaded the Indians would readily join Us in dislodging the French from this Side of the Lakes, but till some such measures be taken I cannot have a great Dependance on their acting with any Vigour; we must shew them the way and shew them too that there may be safety for them in adhering wholly to the British Interest. This I wish to see done, and that I had Grounds to hope for it, but as I am not Sanguine enough to hope it as Things now are, yet from a full and free enquiry at the Treaty into the State of the Colonies, something may be struck out of general Utility necessary to be laid before his Majesty (of whose assistance we can have no Room to doubt) that may contribute to the Safety and Prosperity of the Colonies, and which from his Majestie's Influence and our awakening to a Sense of our Danger from the French Encroachments, may produce Events beyond our present Expectations. I am persuaded with You that the barely making Presents to the Indians may keep them our Friends, the advantage they have in the Trade with Us above what they reap from that with the French is also an Inducement; But I must agree with you till We remove their Fears by shewing them Safety, or at least that We will run equal Risques with them, nothing vigorous can be reasonably expected from them for I am sensible some of them look with great Regret at the large Strides the French are making towards them and us.

"In the Letter from the Lords of Trade, from when the enclosed Extract is taken, their Lordships say that as a great deal depends upon the Interpreters we desire You will be particularly careful to appoint such as are well acquainted with the Indian Language, and Men of Ability and Integrity. Where I shall find an able Interpreter in this Country I know not, nor have been able to learn; the one we have is very unequal to the Service. I must, therefore, beg the Favour of You to let Mr. Weiser accompany your Commissioners to Albany, that We may have his Assistance, or else We shall be at some Difficulty to understand the Indians or they us.

"I hope You will be able to apprehend my Thoughts tho' thrown together without Order and in this confused Manner, my having so many Letters to answer by this Post not giving me Leasure to

digest them in any Method. If having a great Regard for your Abilities and Integrity could be an Excuse for this hasty Writing no one is better entitled to it than,

"Sir, Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

"JAMES DE LANCEY."

A Letter from Governor Shirley to Governor Hamilton.

"Boston, March 4th, 1754.

"Sir:

"I am favoured with your Honour's Letter of the twenty-sixth of December, and am much obliged to You for the Expressions of your Esteem of me, which are the more agreeable to me as they come from a Gentleman for whom with the greatest Truth I can say I have an equal Regard.

"I thank You for your Account of the Encroachments of the French upon the River Ohio, which are confirmed to me in a Letter by the last Post from Governor Dinwiddie, who I doubt not hath informed your Honour as he hath done me of the Answer he hath received from Mr. Legardeur Destlierre, the French Commanding Officer, dated at his Fort upon the River au Bœuf, declaring his Orders and Resolution to maintain the Forts already erected upon the River Ohio and Others which he is directed to build there, and denying the Right of the English to trade upon those Waters; and I entirely agree in Sentiments with your Honour concerning the fatal Consequences which those Proceedings of the French, if they are not dislodged, must bring upon his Majestie's Southern Colonies on this Continent in Time of War.

"Your Honour is pleased in your Letter to desire me to give You my Sentiments upon the Extents of his Majestie's Dominions in North America, apprehending that I was employed by my late Commission at Paris in the Settlement of these Limits between the Two Crowns; but that Part of the Negotiation which I was directed by his Majestie's Ministers to enter into during my Residence in France was confined with respect to the English Territories on this Continent to the antient Limits of Acadia or Nova Scotia, and the Eastern Bounds of New England. However, Sir, I shall freely declare to You my Opinion upon the Point in Question so far as I have enquired into and considered of it.

"It appears to me that the several Patents granted by King James the First to the Two Councils established at Plymouth and London for planting Colonies upon this Continent are the only Rule for the English Governors to judge of the Limits of the Colonies under their respective Governments by in all Disputes with the French Governors concerning the Extent of his Majestie's Terri-

tories upon this Continent, except in Cases where the original Limits declared in those Letters Patent may be altered by Treaty or other Agreement between the Two Crowns; now those Patents extend the English Territories lying within the 32d and 48th Degrees of Northerly Latitude quite across this Continent, vizt from the Atlantick Ocean to the South Sea; and I can't find that those Eastern and Western Limits have been abridged by any Treaty. Accadia or Nova Scotia hath indeed passed, by several Treaties between the Two Crowns at different Times, to and from the English and French; but all that the Treaty of Utrecht, which is the only one that makes the least Mention of the Limits between the English and French upon this Continent, expresseth concerning that Matter is contained in the 15th Article, 'by which the Indians of the Five Nations are declared to be subjects to the Dominion of Great Britain; and it is stipulated that the English and French shall on both sides have and enjoy full Liberty of going and coming (vizt upon any Part of the Continent) on account of Trade; also that all the Indian Nations of the Country, whether in Subjection to the English or French, or Friends to either, shall have the same Liberty to resort as they please to the French and British Colonies for promoting Trade on the one side and the other; but that it was to be exactly and distinctly settled by Commissaries which of the Indians are and which ought to be accounted the Subjects and Friends of Britain and France.'

"This hath not yet been done, but it is most evident the erecting of Forts by the French upon the Lakes and Rivers behind the English Colonies in order to exclude them from trading there with the Indians, and the taking away the Effects of our Traders and making them Prisoners; all which Monsieur Legardeur Destlierre hath done, and declares in his answer to Governor Dinwiddie that he had Orders from Monsieur Duquesne, the French Governor General of New France and the Louisianna, so to do, is doubtless an Infraction of the Treaty of Utrecht and a Violation of the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, at the time of making which it was stipulated that neither Crown should make any new Settlement in any Part of the Continent which is controverted between them until the same shall be settled by Commissaries, so that if there was Room to entertain any Doubt whether the Branches of the Ohio upon which the French are erecting Forts for these declared Purposes were within the Limits of his Majestie's Dominions, which I can't think there is, Yet it seems clear that his Governors in North America have good Right, and are bound in Duty to his Service and Faithfulness to the Trust reposed in them for promoting the Safety and Welfare of his People under their Government, to use their utmost Endeavours to remove them.

"I can't find that the French have any other Pretensions to that vast Country which they claim on the Back of the English Colonies

between Canada and Mississippi, extending westward as far as the Pacific Ocean, than that it hath been more traversed by their Coureurs des Bois and Hunters than it hath by the English. As to the immense Fur Trade which they would monopolize there, it is directly contrary to the Treaty of Utrecht as well as the Rights of Dominion they pretend to over the numerous Tribes of Indians inhabiting it; and if the Right to the Soil was to depend upon Indian Treaties, so far as I can Learn the Right of the English to that Tract is better founded upon that Foot than their's.

"But whatever Obscurity or Doubt there may be concerning his Majestie's Right of Dominion over these Territories, the Scheme of the French in circumscribing the English Colonies within the Apalachean Mountains, which they pretend to be the Western Boundary between Us and them, is evidently this, to monopolize the immense Fur Trade within that Tract to themselves, to subject all the Indians behind those Mountains to their Power, to establish a Communication between Canada and their Possessions upon Mississippi by Chain of Forts upon the Lakes and Rivers, in which they have already made a most surprizing Progress, and by that means perpetually to harrass our Southern Colonies with Incursions of the Savages from behind the Mountains; all which must not only prove an effectual Bar to the Extension of his Majestie's Southern Colonies, in particular to the Westward, as your Honour justly observes in your Letters, but seems to threaten them with Destruction in the End; especially considering the infinite Advantage which the French, who, from the Nature of their Government, can play all their Engines at once, and direct their whole Force where and when they please, have over the English Colonies in Time of War, which are very much governed by Assemblies independant of each other, frequently disunited in their Councils, some of them very remote from Others, and all of them looking upon themselves to be concerned in the Common Cause in proportion to their Nearness or Remoteness from the present Danger. And if the French should prevail in their attempts to seduce the Indians of the Six Nations from their Alliance with the English and gain them over to their Interest, which I am afraid they are in a fair Way of doing, there seems Reason to apprehend that such an Event may be nearer than is generally imagined.

"To obviate this Danger the Union of all his Majestie's Colonies upon this Continent, as recommended in the Earl of Holdernesse's Letter, seems absolutely necessary; and as there is to be an Interview with the Indians of the Six Nations at Albany in June next, to which I suppose Commissioners will be sent from the Governments of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, the Massachusets Bay, and New Hampshire, and perhaps from Connecticut, I would propose it for your Honour's Consideration whether this Meeting of the Commissioners from so many Governments to treat

with these Indians in Concert with the Government of New York, may not yield the most favourable Opportunity for beginning such an Union in a most essential Article, by jointly agreeing upon such Measures as may most effectually preserve and strengthen our Alliance and Friendship with these Nations, for which Purpose the several Commissioners should have sufficient Powers given them by their respective Governments, as also to settle the Quota of each Government either in Men or Money for carrying what shall be agreed upon into Execution, whether that shall be by erecting and maintaining one or more Forts within such Parts of the Mohawk Country as the Indians themselves shall chose for the Protection of it, with their Squas and Papooses, against the Incursions of the French and Indians in their Alliance at such times as they shall be engaged in Hunting or War, or otherwise, as shall be most acceptable to the Indians and conducive to his Majestie's Service.

"This is what I shall recommend in a most pressing manner to the Assembly within this Government, which is to meet the twenty-seventh of this Month, to do on their Part, and I can't but think it would have a most happy Effect if his Majestie's several Governors could prevail upon their respective Assemblies to join in so salutary and necessary a Measure for the Common Cause.

"Should the French by Artifices or Threats induce the Six Nations only to give them and the Indians in their Alliance a free Passage thro' their Country for making Incursions upon Us, that would be attended with very mischievous Consequences to his Majestie's Colonies, but should they prevail upon them to take up the Hatchet against Us at this Conjuncture it must be fatal to them.

"I design to mention this Proposal for securing the Indians of the Six Nations in our Friendship by a joint Concurrence of the several Governments who shall send Commissioners to Albany to Governors Dinwiddie, Sharpe, Belcher, De Lancey, and Wentworth, and shall be obliged to your Honour for your free Sentiments upon it, as also upon the most proper Measures for cementing an Union among the Governments in general upon this Continent in all other respects for their mutual Protection and Defence against the common Enemy suitable to the present Conjuncture, and shall with great Pleasure co-operate with You for promoting his Majestie's Service upon all Occasions.

"I shall be obliged to your Honour for an Account of the Success of the Messenger which You sent to discover the Situation of the French Fort and their Designs, with the Determination of your Assembly upon this Occasion, as also of what Advice You may have received further than what I have done from Virginia and Maryland, and would further beg the Favour of You, if it would not be too much Trouble, to send me a Collection of the Treaties made in your Honour's Government with the Indians.

"Enclosed is the Declaration of one Patten (the Messenger which I believe You sent to Ohio) made sometime ago to some Merchants at Boston. I send it tho' it is most probable he hath been more particular already in his Information given yourself; An Extract likewise of one Smith's Letter to me, which he hath verified before me and the Council by his Oath; And I shall send your Honour an Account by next Post of the several Encroachments made by the French in Nova Scotia and upon Saint John's River, and of the Intelligence I have very lately received of one making upon the River Kennebeck, but the Departure of this Post will not allow me more time than to assure You that I am with a most real esteem and Regard,

"Sir, Your most humble and most obedient Servant,

"W. SHIRLEY."

Extract from Mr. Smith's Letter to Governor Shirley, dated December 24th, 1753, from Cape Cod in the Massachusetts Bay.

"September the 29th, 1752, the Castor or Beaver Company of Quebec petitioned the Governor and Council of Canada to have a Fort erected on or near a River called by the French la Riviere blanche, for the Support and Strength of their Indian Commerce, which they alledged was encroached upon by the English Traders. This was forthwith granted by the Governor and Council, and an Army of Six Thousand Men to be forthwith and ready to March by the First of January, 1753, which Body was to consist of 5,000 Militia, 600 Indians, and 400 Regulars, and when raised were thus to be disposed of: they were to be divided into Three Parties, and to march as follows, vizt: the first Party consisting of 2,000 Militia and 300 on the 1st January, 1753, under the Command of Capt. Murray; the second Party consisting of the same Number to be ready on the first of March, under the Command of Monsieur Payconage, and the third Party consisting of the Regulars and the Rest of the Militia to be ready to embark at Quebec on Board of Boats which were to be provided for them by the 1st of May, under the Command of Captain Lotbinere, Engineer; upon the Declaration of this Grant Measures were so expeditiously taken that Arms, Ammunition, and Provisions, with necessary Apparel were forthwith provided and disposed of in proper Magazines throughout the Country for that Purpose by the beginning of December, and according to the Time limited by the Grant; the first Party began their March on New Year's Day, 1753, the second Party in March, and the Remainder I saw embarked at Quebec on the 1st May, on board 100 flat-bottomed Boats built for the Expedition. We had every Day News before I left Canada of a great Sickness raging among them, so that the Hospitals at Montreal and Fort Frontenac

were entirely crowded with their Sick, and several have deserted from them and privately returned home, being terrified with the Thoughts of a so long March; all which greatly impairs their Force. This Party is to remain on the Command for three Years. When I left Canada, which was on the 18th of August last, the Country People and Populace in general were greatly dissatisfied with their Government on Account of their being so arbitrarily bereaved of their Children, so that Seditious Libels and satirical Sonnets were the continual Cry of their Streets, for the Suppressing of which an Act was made that if any person sung or spoke any disrespectful Words against the Governor, the Lord Intendant, or Council, exciting to Mutiny or Sedition, should upon Conviction be forthwith imprisoned for a Year, unless proper Security for their future good Behaviour should be produced; this at first the Populace looked upon as only a Bugbear, till two or three were taken into Custody and proper Security obliged to be given, which Rigour pretty well silenced the Mob. Their common Cry was that their Governor, by his sending such a Body of Men so far from Home, had an Intention to deliver the Country into the hands of their Neighbours the New England Men, of whom the Canadians in general are mighty jealous. The Indian Traders with whom I have conversed inform me that la Riviere blanche is 500 Leagues from Quebec, and that it is in the British Territories; and further, that the English receiving Intelligence of their Schemes and Proceedings they were afraid they would make Head against and drive them off."

—

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Mr. George Croghan.

"March 23d, 1754.

"May it please your Honour:

"I here enclose a Speech made by a Frenchman at Log's Town to the Six Nations, Delawares, and Shawonese, after Mr. Montour and myself left the Town, which Speech the Indians sent after me and ordered me to send it immediately to your Honour that You might see how they were treated by the French and desired You might send a Copy of it to the Governor of Virginia. Mr. Trent had received a Commission from the Governor of Virginia, and had enlisted about Seventy Men before I left Ohio. I left him and his Men at the Mouth of Mohongialo building a Fort, which seemed to give the Indians great Pleasure and put them in high Spirits. I have heard nothing more particular since Mr. Montour's Departure from Ohio worth mentioning to your Honour.

"I am Your Honour's most obedient and most humble Servant,

"GEO. CROGHAN."

A Speech made by Monsieur La Force, the French Gentleman that was at Log's Town when Mr. Montour and I left it, to the Six Nations there.

"Children:

"I came here to know your Minds whether You intend to side with the English or not, and without asking You I am convinced that You have thrown away your Fathers and taken to your Brothers the English. I tell You now that You have but a short Time to see the Sun, for in Twenty Days You and your Brothers the English shall all die."

The Speaker of the Six Nations made him this Reply:

"Fathers:

"You tell Us in Twenty Days We and our Brethren the English must all dye. I believe You speak true, that is You intend to kill Us if You can; but I tell You to be strong and bring down your Soldiers for We are ready to receive You in battle but not in Peace. We are not afraid of You, and after an Engagement You will Know who are the best Men, You or We."

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"I am not insensible that an Absence from your Homes at this busy Season of the Year must be very inconvenient to your private Affairs, for which Reason I should not have called You together before the Time to which you stood adjourned but that I thought the Service of his Majesty and the Interest of your Country required it.

"In my several Messages during your late Session, to which I desire to refer You, I fully represented the dangerous Consequences that were to be apprehended from the Invasion made by the French on Part of his Majestic's Dominions, and in Obedience to his Royal Orders I pressed You in the warmest Manner to grant such Supplies of Men and Money as might enable me to resist the hostile Attempts of these Invaders and to repel Force by Force. But for the Reasons set forth in your Answers, and particularly that You were 'unacquainted with the Result of the Government of Virginia with Regard to this Invasion,' You declined granting the Supplies at that Time, and 'judged it most prudent to wait until the Assembly of that Colony had enabled their Governor to Act in Obedience to the Royal Commands.'

"I am now to acquaint you, Gentlemen, that since your Adjournment I have received from Governor Dinwiddie the several Papers herewith laid before You, by which it will appear that he is taking

Gentlemen of the Council & House of Representatives. —

The Occasion of my Speaking to you now, is to acquaint you that I have received a Letter from the Right Hon.ble the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations, signifying to me that his Majesty had been pleased to Order a Sum of Money to be issued for Presents for the Six Nations of Indians, &c. — & directed the Governour of New York to hold an Interview with them for delivering those Presents at such place & time, as he shall appoint; And I am directed to lay this Matter before You, and to recommend to You to make a proper Provision for appointing Commissioners from this Government, to meet Commissioners of Virginia, Maryland, Pensilvania, New Jerseys and New Hampshire, &c the respective Gov.rs of which Colonies their Lordships have wrote to the same Effect, as also for making such presents, as hath been usual upon the like Occasions. —

I have likewise to acquaint You that I find by a Paragraph of their Lordships Letter upon this Occasion to the Gov.r of New York, w.ch his Hon.r Lieut. Gov.r — De Lancy, Commander in Chief of that Province, hath communicated to me, that he is therein directed to take Care that all the Provinces be if practicable comprized in One General Treaty to be made in his Majesty's Name. —

And that Mr. De Lancey hath given me Notice that he hath appointed the said Interview to be held at the City of Albany on the fourteenth of June next. — .

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I am Persuaded, Gentlemen, I need not use Arguments to convince you, that it is of very great Consequence to the Interest of his Majesty's Colonies upon this Continent at all times, that as many of the Tribes of Indians inhabiting it, as may be, (those of the Six Nations more especially) should be kept in Friendship with the English, in Dependance upon the Crown of Great Britain, & that as free a Commerce and Intercourse should be maintained with them, as is possible: But I think it my Duty at this time to Enter into a particular Detail of these Matters. —

At the Treaty of Utrecht, wch is Confirmed by that of Aix-la-Chapelle, the[se] were look'd upon to be Points of that Importance to the British Interest in North America, that Care was taken in that Treaty to have the Indians of the Six Nations Acknowledged by France to be subject to the Dominion of Great Britain; & it is therein expressly Stipulated, that the French shall give no hinderance or Molestation, either to them, or the other Natives of America, who were Friends to the English; It is also Stipulated that the Subjects of both Crowns should Enjoy full Liberty of going or coming [upon this Continent] on account of Trade, And that the Natives of the Countries [upon it] should with the same Liberty resort, as they please, to the British and French Colonies for promoting Trade on the one side

and

and the other; without any Molestation or hinderance either on the part of the British Subjects or of the French. - -

With Regard to the Indians of the Six Nations in - - particular; I would Observe to You, that according to an Account given by them in an Open Council at Sarjahawhie, at their Return from the Indian Treaty at Philadelphia in 1742. of the several Indian Nations, which have been - Conquerd by them, & are now in their Alliance & Trade with the English: Which seems to be depended upon; the Warriors - belonging to those Tribes may be computed to Amount to 1600, or 1700 at least: And One, whom I mentioned to You in my last, a Seneka named who must be a good Judge of the Strength of the five Nations themselves, being Interrogated upon by me concerning the Number of their fighting Men, made Answer, That he did not know their Number, but well - knew that they are a Numerous People, a Terrible Body of Men, and able to Drive all the Indians in Canada. -

You must be sensible, Gentlemen, what frequent Attempts the French have made from time to time to draw off the - Six Nations from the English Interest into their own; & from the repeated Advices, We have received from his Majesty's Southern Colonies on this Continent, what Efforts they - have lately Exerted to win over their Allies, together with the other Numerous Tribes inhabiting the East Countries

lying

lying along the Great Lakes & Rivers, & to the Westward of the Apalachian Mountains; all which may be reckoned to Exceed double the Number of the Indians of the Six Nations and those in their Alliance; As Also what measures the French are taking to Exclude the English from all Trade and Commerce with those Indians.

To Compass this, they have in manifest Violation of the aforesaid Treaties entered the Country of those Indians upon the back of his Majesty's Southern Colonies, & within the limits of his said Territories, with large Bodies of Troops seized the Effects & Captivated the Persons of the English, whom they have found trading there, Absolutely denying their Right to Trade with those Nations, & Erected a Line of Forts upon the Lakes & Rivers from Canada to Missisipi to Cut off all Commerce & Intercourse between them; they have Committed Hostilities against some of the Tribes in Friendship with the English, engaged others to take up the Hatchet against them, & threatned those with Destruction who shall Intercede in their favour to drive the English out of that Country.

Should the Indians of the Six Nations at this Critical Conjuncture desert our Alliance, & go over to the French, how fatal an Influence must such Event have upon the British Interest? On the other hand, should proper Measures be taken to Attach them

firmly

firmly to it: how greatly would it disappoint & Check the present Scheme & Enterprizes of our Dangerous Neighbours.

It is well known how wavering the Disposition of these Indians hath of late been; and how visibly they have Abated their former Enmity to the French; One we Can't be at a loss to discover the Real Causes of it.

Nothing could at this time so effectually reclaim them to their Old Alliance with us, as the Measures directed by their Lordships of the Board of Trade; One general League of Friendship comprizing all his Majesty's Colonies, to be made with them in his Majesty's Name; with Liberty to build such Forts in their Country, as they shall Choose & may be Judged necessary for their Shelter & Protection agt the French. Such a Coalition of the Colonies for their Defence against our common Enemy, would be a Convincing Proof to them, that they might safely depend upon his Majesty for Protection, and Confirm them in their Ancient Alliance with the English; and how necessary such a Confederacy of the Colonies for their Safeguard is, may appear to you from the following Act. given by an Indian Trader, who for more than 20 Years had Carried on a Trade among the different Nations of Indians some hundred Miles West of Philadelphia, the Substance of w.h You've great Reason to depend upon, viz.t "That at the Commencem.t of the late War "the & Sundry other Traders of the English, was taken Prisoners by some "Frenchmen belonging to a Fort upon the River Ohio, from whence we "were transported from Fort to Fort to Quebec, by means of the Forts & the Lakes "the French, he says, have a Communication open from Quebec to Missisi "ppi; that they have Forts there within 20 or 30 Miles distance of each

" Each other; w.th a Command from her to Jo. Stevin Lach, in co.th
" he says, they put the Spirits & Purposes of the Indians in Alliance
" w.th them, for Protection, whilst the Men go out to War; & there kept on
" until the men return; The Observes, y.t by means of these Lots, they
" bid fair in a little time to seduce the Indians in Alliance to y.e English
" as the English do not Afford y.e same Protection to their Women & Children, whilst
" the Men are gone to War, as the French do."

I would therefore earnestly recommend to you Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, to make suitable Provision for sending Commissioners on the part of this Government, to joyn in the approaching Interview at Albany, duly Authorized to Concert such Measures in Conjunction with the Govern.ts of New York, & Commiss.rs of the before mentioned Governm.ts as shall be judged proper to be entered into for cementing a firm League of Friendship with the Indians of the six Nations and reclaiming them to the British Interest; And to give these Commiss.rs full Powers to agree with the other Governm.ts upon the Quota of Money & Men to be furnished by the Province for this Service. —

I have taken the Liberty to propose the same thing to be done by the other Governm.ts concerned in this Interview, in my Letters to his Majesty's Govr.s, & have reason to hope they will promote so salutary a measure. —

Such an Union of Councils, besides the happy Effect it will probably have upon the Indians of the six Nations, may lay a foundation for a general One among all his Majesty's Colonies, for their mutual Safety & Defence against the present dangerous Enterprizes of the French on every Side of them. —

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I have Already let You know, Gentlemen, his Majesty's Orders to me & his other Governours, upon this Point, signified to us in the Earl of Holderness's Letter of the 28th of last [illegible]; And how necessary it is that such an Union should be immediately form'd in the Common Cause, whoever takes a Survey of the whole Extent of the Invasions and Incroachm^ts wch the French are surrounding his Majesty's Territories upon this Continent with, from their most Eastern to their most Western Limits, must soon be Convinced.

Close on the Back of the Settlem^ts of his Majesty's Southern Colonies they are joyning Canada to the Mississippi by a Line of Forts & Settlements along the great Lakes & Rivers, & Cutting off all Commerce & Intercourse between the English, & the Numerous Powerfull Tribes of Indians inhabiting that Country, who they are Attempting to Engage in their Interest by all manner of Hostilities & Artifices: And at the same time they are pushing on their Incroachments with equal Vigour, quite round his Majesty's Eastern Colonies, where they have Sourd all the Indians in those parts to Joyn them against the English. — —

Should the French prevail in the former part of their Scheme, and gain a general Influence & Dominion over the Indians behind the Apalachian Mountains, which they must in the Ordinary Course of human Events do in a short time, if they are not timely prevented by the [illegible] Union of his Majesty's Colonies, they will have in a very few

Years

Years a most formidable Army of those Indians at their Command, maintained without any Expence to themselves, But on the Other hand with great Profit arising from an Immense Fur Trade carryed on with them: And what fatal Consequences, such an Army of Warriors, (a few of wch have been found sufficient to keep a large Frontier in Continual Alarm) must have upon all his Majesty's Southern Colonies, by continually harrassing them, at the Direction of the French, supported by them from Canada on one Side & Mississippi on the Other; and Cover'd in their Retreat behind the Mountains by a Strong Line of Forts commanding the Navigation of all the Lakes & Rivers, is easy to Conceive; especially if the Rest of the Six Nations should desert our Alliance, and join the French; wch must in such Case, be a decisive Blow to the British Interest on that part of the Continent.

At the same time, if they are not prevented, by a Coalition of Colonies from finishing the Scheme, wch it is most Manifest they are forming against the Eastern Provinces, & already far Advanced in, they must soon have it in their Power effectually to distress them likewise: And all the English Colonies will be involv'd together in one general Flame. —

It is true, those Colonies are far Superior to the French in their Numbers & Strength: But if that Strength, Gentlemen is not properly exerted by an Union among themselves, to little will it Avail. —

It is not Difficult to imagine that such a Body of Troops, as the French may soon Collect, together with the

Assistance

Assistance of all the Indians scatter'd throughout this Continent, on the back of the English Colonies, (as the French Settlements likewise are) when Under the Command of the Gov.r General of New France, who, upon all Emergencies can direct their Force as he pleases, may reduce a Number of dismantled Provinces, (many of them very remote from each other) possessed by regular Troops, into much Superior to them in point of the Number of Inhabitants.

For forming this general Union Gentlemen, there is no time to be lost: The French seem to have Advanc'd further towards making themselves Masters of this Continent, within these last five or six Years, than they have done ever since the first beginning of their Settlements upon it: And how determin'd they are to accomplish their Scheme as soon as possible, appears from their breaking thro' the most Solemn Treaties & Agreements, made between the two Crowns, in Order to Effect it: —

Gentlemen.

His Majesty hath given the strongest Proofs of his paternal Care of his Colonies, & constant Attention to their Safety, in directing his Gov.rs to promote this Union within their respective Governments, And I hope, you will not be wanting on your Parts to Contribute all in your Power towards effecting it, by improving the Opportunity, w.ch the approaching Interview with the Indians of the six Nations at Albany his Majesty presents for that Purpose. And I doubt not, you may depend on all Reasonable Support and Protection on the part of his Majesty against all Present & future

577

Future Enterprizes and Attempts of the French against You.

Whitehall
Council Chamber 2d of April
1754.

Copy.

On Wednesday the 31st. of October 1753 I was commissioned and appointed by the Hon.ble Robert Dinwiddie Esq.r Governor &c. of Virginia, to visit and deliver a Letter to the Commandant of the French forces on the Ohio, and set out on the intended Journey the same day. The next I arrived at Fredericksburg, and engaged Mr. Jacob Vanbraam Interpreter, and proceeded with him to Alexandria where He provided Necessaries: From thence We went to Winchester, and got Baggage Horses, &c. and from there We pursued the new Road to Wills Creek, where We arrived the 14th. of November.

Here I engaged Mr. Gist to pilot us out, and also hired four others as Servitors (viz.t) Barnaby Currin & John Mc Quire (Indian Traders). Henry Steward and William Jenkins, and in company with these Persons I left the Inhabitants the day following.

On the

the excessive Rains & vast quantity of Snow that has fallen prevented our reaching Mr. Frazer's, an Indian Trader at the Mouth of Turtle Creek on Monongehela till Thursday.

22d. We were informed here, that Expresses were sent a few days ago to the Traders down the River to acquaint them with the General's Death, & Return of major part of the French Army into Winter Quarters. The Waters were quite impassable without swimming our Horses, which obliged us to get the Loan of a Canoe from Mr. Frazer, and to send Barnaby Currin and Henry Stewart down Monongehela with Our Baggage to meet us at the Forks of Ohio about 10 Miles to cross Allegany.

Accordingly got down before the Canoe & spent some time in viewing the Rivers and the Land in the Forks, which I think extremely well situated for a Fort.

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as it has the absolute Command of both Rivers: the Land at the Point is 20 or 25 feet above the common surface of the Water, and a considerable Bottom of flat well timber'd Land all around it, very convenient for Building, the Rivers are each a quarter of a Mile or more acrost, & run here very nigh at right Angles, Allegany bearing N.E. & Monongehela S.E. The former of these two is a very rapid swift-running Water, the other deep and still with scarcely any perceptible Fall. About two Miles from this on the S.E. side of the River at the place where the Ohio Company intended to erect a Fort lives Singets King of the Delawars. We called upon him to invite him to Council at the Logstown.

As I had taken a good deal of Notice yesterday of the situation at the Forks, my Curiosity led me to examine this more particularly, and my Judgment to think

think it greatly inferior either for Defence or Advantages, especially the latter; for a Fort at the Forks would be equally well situated on Ohio, & have the entire Command of Monongehela, which runs up to Our Settlements, & is extreamly well designed for Water Carriage, as it is of a deep still Nature; besides a Fort at the Fork might be built at a much less Expence than at the other place. Nature had well contrived the lower Place for Water Defence, but the Hill whereon it must stand being a quarter of a Mile in length, and then descending gradually on the Land side will render it difficult & very expensive making a sufficient Fortification there. The whole Flat upon the Hill must be taken in, or the Side next the Descent made extreamly high, or else the Hill cut away, otherwise the Enemy will raise Batteries within that distance without

without being exposed to a single Hail from the Fort.

RECEIVED COLONIAL OFFICE

Singes attended us to Logstown, where We arrived between Sun Setting and Dark the 25th Day after I left Williamsburg. We travelled over some extream good & bad Land to get to this Place. As soon as I came into Town, I went to Monacatoocha (as the Half King was out at his hunting Cabbin on little Beaver Creek about 15 Miles off,) and informed him by John Davison Interpreter, that I was sent a Messenger to the French General, and was ordered to call upon the Sachems of the six Nations to acquaint them with it. I gave him a String of Wampum, and a Twist of Tobacco, and desired him to send for the Half King; which he promised to do by a Runner in the Morning and for other Sachems. I invited him and the other Great Men present to attend, where I they stay an Hour and returned.

According

123

129 might

According to the best Observations
I could make Mr. Gist's new Settlement
(which We past by) bears about N.N.W.
70 Miles from Wills Creek. Shannapins
or the Forks N.B.W. or N.N.W. about
50 Miles from that, and from thence
to the Logstown, the Course is nearly West
about 18 or 20 Miles. So that the whole
Distances as We went and computed it, is
at least 135 or 40 Miles from our back
Settlements.

25th. Came to Town four of 10 French Men
that deserted from a Company at the
Cuscusas, which lies at the Mouth of
this River; I got the following Account
from them. - They were sent from New-
Orleans with 100 Men, & 8 Canoe Load
of Provisions to this place, where they
expected to have met the same Number
of Men from the Forts this side Lake
Erie to convoy them and the Horses up,
but were not arrived when they ran

off.

of. I enquired into the Situation of the French on the Mississippi, their Number and what Forts they had built. They informed me that there were four small Forts between New Orleans and the Black Islands garrisoned with about 30 or 40 Men, and a few small Pieces of Cannon in each. That at New Orleans, which is near the Mouth of the Mississippi, there is 35 Companies of 40 Men each with a pretty strong Fort, mounting 8 large Carriage Guns, & at the Black Islands there is several Companies & a Fort with 6 Guns.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE COLONIAL OFFICE

The Black Islands is about 130 Leagues above the Mouth of the Ohio, which is 150 above New Orleans. — They also acquainted me that there was a small palisadoed Fort on the Ohio at the Mouth of the Wabash about 60 Leagues from the Mississippi: The Wabash heads near the West End of Lake Erie, and affords the Communication between the French on Mississippi & those

on

on the Lakes. — These Deserters came up
from the Lower Shawnese Town, with one
Brown an Indian Trader, and were going
to Philadelphia.

About 3 o'Clock this Evening the
Half King came to Town; I went up, &
invited him & Davison privately to
my tent, & desired him to relate some
of the particulars of his Journey to the
French Commandant, & reception there,
& to give me an account of the way
& Distance. — He told me that the nearest
& levelest Way was now impassable by
reason of the many large miry Savannas;
that We must be obliged to go by Venango,
and should not get to the near Fort
under 5 or 6 Nights Sleep, good traveling.
When he went to the Fort he said he
was received in a very stern Manner
by the late Commander, who asked him
very abruptly, what he had come about,
and to declare his Business, which

&c

he says he did in the following Speech,

Fathers, I am come to tell you your own Speeches, what your own Mouths have declared. Fathers, you in former Days set a silver Bason before us, wherein there was the Leg of a Beaver, and desired of all Nations to come and eat of it, to eat in peace and plenty, and not to be churlish to one another; and that if any such Person should be found to be a Disturber, I here lay down by the Edge of the Dish a Rod, which you must scourge them with; and if me your Father should get foolish in my old Days, I desire you may use it upon me as well as others.

Now Fathers, it is you that is the Disturber in this Land, by coming and building your Towns and taking it away unknown to Us and by force. Fathers, We kindled a Fire a long time ago at a Place called Merrit, where We desired you to stay, & not to come and intrude upon our Land.

I

obliged them to go into Quarters; but they

I now desire you may dispatch to that
Place; for be it known to you, Fathers,
this is our Land and not yours. Fathers,
I desire you may hear me in civilness;
if not, we must handle that Rod, which
was laid down for the use of the obstro-
pulous. — If you had come in a peaceable
manner like our Brothers the English,
We should not have been against your
trading with us as they do; but to
come, Fathers, and build great Houses
upon our Land, and to take it by
force, is what we cannot submit to.

Fathers, both you and the En-
glish are white; we live in a Country
between; therefore the Land does not
belong either to one or the other, but
the Great Being above allowed it to
be our Place of Residence; for now, Fathers,
I desire you to withdraw, as I have
done our Brothers the English; for
I will keep you at arm's length, I say

this

this down as a Seyal for both, to see which will have the greatest Regard to it, & that side we will stand by, and make Equal Shares with us; our Brothers the English have heard this, and I come now to tell it to you, for I am not afraid to discharge you off this Land. - This, he said, was the Substance of what he said to the General, who made this Reply,

Now my Child, I have heard your speech. You spoke first, but it is my time to speak now. Where is my Wampum that you took away with the Marks of Towns in it? - This Wampum I do not know, which you have discharged me off the Land with; but you need not put yourself to the trouble of speaking, for I will not hear you. I am not afraid of Flies or Musquitos, for Indians are such as these; I tell you down that River I will go, and will build upon it according to my Command; if the River was ever so blocked up, I have Forces sufficient

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE COLONIAL OFFICE

sufficient to burst it open; and tread under
my feet all that stand in opposition)
together with their Alliances; for my
Force is as the Sand upon the Sea Shore;
Therefore here is your Wampum! I
fling it at you. — Child, you talk foolish.
You say this Land belongs to you, but
there is not the black of my Nail yours.
I saw that Land sooner than you did,
before the Shawnese and you were at War.
Lead was the Man that went down, and
took Possession of that River; it is my
Land, & I will have it, let who will stand
up for or say against it. - I'll buy and
sell with the English (mockingly.) If
People will be ruled by me, they may expect
Kindness but not else.

The Half King told me, he enquir'd
of the General after two English Men
that were made Prisoners, and received
this Answer,

Child, you think it is a very great
Hardship

Hardship that I made Prisoners of these two People at Venango. — Don't you concern yourself with it, we took and carried them to Canada to get Intelligence of what the English were doing in Virginia.

COLONIAL OFFICE

He informed me that they had built two Forts, one on Lake Erie, and another on French Creek near a small Lake about 15 Miles asunder, by a large Waggon Road between; they were both built after the same Model, but different in the Size, that on the Lake the largest; he gave me a Plan of them of his own drawing. — The Indians enquired very particularly after their Brothers in Carolina Goal. — They also asked what sort of a Boy it was that was taken from the South Branch, for they had by some Indians heard, that a Party of French Indians had carried a white Boy by the Cuscuskies Town towards the Lakes.

26th. We met in Council at the Long House about 9 o'Clock, where I spoke to them, as follows, —

Brothers,

Brothers, I have called you together in Council by order of your Brother the Governor of Virginia, to acquaint you that I am sent with all possible Dispatch to visit and deliver a Letter to the French Commandant of very great Importance to your Brothers the English, and I dare say to you their Friends & Allies.— I was desired, Brothers, by your Brother the Governor to call upon you the Teachers of the six Nations to inform you of it; & to ask your Advice & Assistance to proceed the nearest and best Road to the French. You see, Brothers, I have got thus far on my Journey.— His Honour likewise desired me to apply to you for some of your young Men to conduct and provide Provisions for us on our Way; & to be a Safeguard against the French Indians that have taken up the Hatchet against Us. I have spoke this particularly to you, Brothers, because His Honour Our Governor

Governor treats you as good Friends and
Allies, and looks you in great Esteem. To
confirm what I have said I give you this
String of Wampum.

COLONIAL OFFICE

After they had considered some time on the
above, the Half King got up and spoke,

Now my Brothers, In regard to what
my Brother the Governor has desired of me, I
return you this Answer. I rely upon your
a Brother aught to do, as you say We are bro.
thers & one People. We shall put Heart in
hand, & speak to our Fathers the French con-
cerning their Speech they made to me, & you may
depend that We will endeavour to be your Guard.

Brother, as you have asked my Advice
I hope you will be ruled by it, & stay till I can
provide a Company to go with you. The French
Speech Belt is not here, I have it to go for to
my Hunting Cabbin, likewise the People I have
ordered are not yet come, nor can till the third
Night from this, till which time, Brother, I
must beg you to stay. I intend to send a Guard

12 d

of

of Mingoes, Shawnese & Delawars, that our Brothers may see the Love & Loyalty We bear them.

As I had orders to make all possible Dispatch, & waiting here very contrary to my Inclinations, I thanked him in the most suitable manner I could, & told that my Business required the greatest Expedition, & would not admit of that Delay: He was not well pleased that I should offer to go before the time he had appointed. & told me that he could not consent to our going without a Guard for fear some Accident should befall us, & draw a Reflection upon him. — Besides says he, this is a Matter of no small moment, & must not be entered into without due Consideration; for I now intend to deliver up the French Speech Belt, and make the Shawnese and Delawars do the same, & accordingly gave Orders for Kingsinacks, who was present, to attend on Wednesday Night with the Wampum, & two Men of their Nation to be in readiness to set off with Us next Morning. — As I found it impossible to get off without affronting them in the most egregious Manner, I consented to stay.

I gave them back a String of Wampum that I met with at Mr. Frazer's, which they

had sent with a Speech to His Honour the Gov.
to inform him that three Nations of French Indians (viz.
Chipaways, Ottaways & Mirundacks had taken
up the Hatchet against the English, & desired
them to repeat it over again; which they post-
poned doing till they met in full Council with the
Shawnese and Delaware Chiefs.

27th. Runners were dispatched very early
for the Shawnese Chiefs; the Half King set out
himself to fetch the French Speech Belt from
his hunting Cabbin.

COLONIAL OFFICE

28th. He returned this Evening, & came with
Monacatoocha & two other Sachems to my
Tent, & begged (as they had conferr'd with His
Honour the Governor Council in providing
Men &c.) to know what Business we were
going to the French about. — This was a
Question I all along expected, & had provided
a satisfactory Answer as I could, which
allayed their Curiosity a little. — Monacatoocha
informed me, that an Indian from Venango
brought News a few Days ago, that the
French had called all the Mingoes, Delawars,
&c. together at that place, & told them,
that they intended to have been down the
River this fall, but the Waters were
getting cold, & the Winter advancing, which
obliged them to go into Quarters; but they

might

might assuredly expect them in the Spring with a far greater Number; & desired that they might be quiet spectators, & not intermeddle, unless they had a mind to draw all their force upon them; for that they expected to fight the English three years, (as they supposed there would be some Attempts made to stop them,) in which time they should conquer; but if they should prove equally strong, that they and the English would join to cut them off, and divide the Land between them; that though they had lost their General, and some few of their Soldiers, yet there was Men enough to reinforce, and make them Masters of the Ohio. - This Speech, he said, was delivered to them by one Captain Joncaire, their Interpreter in chief, living at Venango, and a Man of note in the Army.

29th The

COLONIAL OFFICE

29. The Katy King and Monat-
ca Torchia came very early and beg'd
me to stay one Day more, for not-
withstanding they had used all
the Diligence in their Power the
Shawnese Chiefs had not brought
the Hamgram they ordered, but
would certainly be on to Night,
if not they would delay me no
longer, but send it after me as soon
as they arrived, When I found
them so pressing in their Re-
quest; and knew that returning
of Hamgram, was the abolishing
of Agreements, and giving this
up was what Every all Depend-
ence upon Here Creek, I con-
sented to stay, as I believe an
Offence offered at this Crisis
might have been attended with
greater ill Consequence than
another Day's Delay.

 They

They also informed me that
Singefor could not give his Men
and was prevented from coming
himself by his Wife's Brothers
persuaded by fear of the French
but that the Wampum of that
Nation was lodged with Tuo-
la Loa, one of their Chiefs at
Tchanago. — In the Evening
they came again, and acquainted
me, that the Shamnese were
not yet come, but it should
not retard the Prosecution
of our Journey. — He delivered
in my Hearing the Speeches
that were to be made to the
French by Teshaliate, one
of their old Chiefs, which
was giving up the Belt the
late Commandant had asked
for, and repeating near the
same Speech he himself had
done before, — He also deli-
vered a String of Wampum

to.

to this Chief, which meassent by King Cingese to be given to Burtlage, with Orders to repair to and deliver up the French Hampurn; He likewise gave a very large String of black and White Hampurn, which was to be sent immediately up to the Nations, if the French refused to quit the Land at this Warning, which was the third and last time, and was the Right of this Sachia hake to deliver.

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5th Last Night the great men assembled at their Council House to consult further about this Journey, and who were to go, the result of which was that only three of their Chiefs with one of their best Huntens should be in Company; the Reason

they gave for not sending more
after what had been proposed
in Council the 26. was that
a greater Number might
give the French suspicion
of some bad Design, and cause
them to be treated rudely, but
rather think they could not
get their Hunters in.

We set out about 9 o'Clock
with the Half King, Tshahaic,
White Thunder, and the Hun-
ter, and travel'd on the Road
to Venango, where we ar-
rived the 4th of December
without any Thing remar-
kably happening, but a con-
tinued Series of bad Weather.

This is an Old Indian
Town situated on the Mouth
of French Creek on Ohio,
and lies near N. about 60
Miles

Miles from the Logstown, but more
than 70 the Way We were obligd
to come... We found the French
Colours hoisted at a House (
where they drove M.r Celoron
an English Colours from, &
immediately repair'd to it, to know
whence the Commander resided;
There was three Officers, one of
which Capt. Joncaire informed
me; that he had the Command
of the Ohio, but that there was
a General Officer at the next Town
which he advised me to for an
Answer.

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He invited the Co.ps with
them and treated with the greatest
Complaisance. The Hunters they
left to themselves pretty plentifully
supply with it even Cautiond the
Restraint, which at first appear'd
to them Convenient, and gave
Licence to their Tongues to reveal
their

their Sentiments more freely,
They told me it was their ab-
solute Design to take Pos-
session of the Ohio, and by
G— They would do it, for tho'
they were sensible, that the
English could raise two men
for their one, Yet they knew
their motions were too slow
and dilatory to prevent any
Undertaking of theirs. They
pretended to have an un-
doubted Right to the Soil
from a Discovery made by
one Lasalle 60 Years ago, and
the Rise of this Expedition is
to prevent our settling on the
Lands on the Waters of it,
as they have heard of some
Families moving out in
order thereto.

From the best Intelli-
gence I could get, there has
been

been 1500 Men which Indes Georgo
Labes but upon the Death of the
General all were recalld Labeed
Coory Hundreds, which were
left to Garrison four Forts, 150
or thereabouts in each, the Fort
of which is on Detroit Creek
near adjoining Lake about 60
miles from Niagara near S.
S. W. the next lies on Lake Erie
where the greatest Part of their
Stores are kept about 15 miles
from the other; from that it is 120
miles from the Carrying Place
at the Falls of Lake Erie, where
there is a small Fort, which
they keep their Goods at in
bringing them from Mirrail, the
Place that all their Stores come
from; the next Fort lies about
20 Miles from that on Niagara
Lake between this Fort and
Mirrail; there are three others

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the

the first of which is near the English Fort of Sunage; from the Fort on Lake Erie to Niagara is about 600 Miles, which they say if good Weather requires no more than 4 Weeks Voyage, if they go in Canoes or large Vessells that they can cross the Lake; but if they come in Canoes, it will require five or six Weeks, for they are obliged to keep under the Shoar.

5th Heard successively all they which presented themselves travelling. Capt. Lancaster sent for the half King, as he had but just heard that he came with me; He appeared to be much Concern'd that I did not make free to bring him in before; I excused it in the

the best Manner I was capable, and told him I did not think I was an Encumbrance agreeable, as I had heard him say a good deal in dispraise of Indians in General, But another Motive prompted my bringing them into his Company; I knew that he was Interpreter, and of very great Influence among the Indians, and had lately used all possible means to draw them over to their Interest therefore I was desirous of giving no more Opportunity than could be avoided. When they came in, there was great Pleasure expressed at seeing them, he wondred how they could be so near without coming to visit him, made several trifling Presents, and applied Liquors so fast, that they were soon rendered

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rendered incapable of the Business they came about, notwithstanding the Caution that was given.

6. The Half King came to my Tent quite Sober, and insisted very much that I should stay and hear what he had to say to the French; I fain would have prevented his speaking any Thing till he came to the Commandant, but could not prevail; He told me that at this Place Council Fire was kindled where all their Business with these People were to be transacted; and that the Management of the Indian Affairs was entirely to Monsieur Joncaire and was desirous of knowing the Cause of their Journey but sent our Hatchets

a.

a little way up a Branch Creek, to
raise over and Camp which I have
would make it very Night.

About 10 o'Clock they met
in Council, the King spoke much
the same as he had done to the
General, and after the French
Speech Belt, which had before
been demanded, with the Marks
of four Towns in it, which Mon-
sieur Lorière refused to receive,
but desired him to carry it to
the Fort to the Commander.

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7. Monsieur La Chaise Comis-
sary of the French Stores and
three other Soldiers came over
to accompany us up— We found
it extreamly difficult getting
the Indians off to Day; as every
Stratagem had been used to
prevent their going up to the
next; and had not Night set in

Satan

Some Indians the Interpreter informed that I brought from Logs town with me secretly changed not to be heard of their Company, as I could not get them over to my Tent I they having some Business with Captain Logan, to know the Reason why he did not deliver up the French Belt, which he had in keeping but was obliged to send Mr. Gist over to Day to fetch them, w. he did with great Perswasion.

At 11 O Clock We set out for the Fort, and was prevented from arriving there 'till the 11. by excessive Rains, Snows and Bad travelling through many Mines which we were obliged to pass to avoid crossing the Creek, and Swamps, which was impassable, either by Fording or Rafting the Water was so high and Rapid. — We passed over much good Land since

We

We left Penango. and Brought. seve-
ral extensive and very rich Mea-
dows, one of which was near 4.
miles in length, and considera-
bly Wided in some Places.

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12. I prepared early to wait
upon the Commander, and was
received and conducted to him
by the 2 Officers in Command
I acquainted him with the my
Business, and Offered my Com-
mission and Letter, both of which
he declined me to keep 'til the
Arrival of Monsieur Bijeute
Capt at the next Fort; who was
sent for and expected every Hour.

This Commander is a Knight
of the Military Order of St. Lewis
and Name Legadieur de Bine
he is an elderly Gentleman
and has much the Air of a
Soldier; he appears Over to take

the

The Commd immediately upon the Death of the late General and arrived here abt 2 Days before me. At 2 o'Clock the Gentleman that was sent for arrived, when I offered the Letters &c again, which they received and adjourned into a private Apartment for the Captain to translate, who understood a little English, after he had done it, the Captain desired I would walk in and bring my Interpreter to peruse and correct it, which I did.

13. The chief Officer invited to hold a Council of War, which gave me an Opportunity of taking the Dimensions of the Chart, and making what Observations I could. — It is situated on the South

ot.

or West. Fork of French Creek, near the Water, and is almost surrounded by the Creek, and a small Branch of it, which forms a Kind of Island, as may be seen by a Plan I have herewith annexed; it is built exactly in that Manner, and of that Dimensions. It consists of four Bastions, the Sides of which are made of Piles driven into the Ground, and about 12 Feet above Ground at Top, with Port Holes cut for Cannon and small Arms to fire through; there are Eight 6 lb Pieces Mounted, two in each Bastion, one of which before the Gate; In the Bastions are a Guard House, Chapel, Store Houses, Dwellings, and the Commanders private House which is also Platforms for the Cannon and room to retire on; there is several Barracks without the Fort for the Soldiers — The

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dwelling

dwelling coverd some with Bark
and some with Boards, and made
chiefly of Logs, there is also sev-
veral other Houses, such as
Stables, Smith's Shops, &c. all
of which I have laid down
exactly as they stand, and
shall refer to the Plan for
Explanation.

I cold get no certain Ac-
count of the Number of men
here, but according to the best
Judgement I cold form, there
is an Hundred exclusive of
Officers, which are pretty many,
I also gave Orders to the People
that were with me, to take
an exact Account of the Trees
that were hack'd up to convey
them Timber down in the
Spring, which they did, and told
50 of Birch Bark, & 170
of Pine; besides many others
that were blacken'd out in rea-
diness to make.

14. Oct.

11: We then now increased very fast, and our Horses daily got weaker, I sent them off under the Care of Burnaby Curtain and two others, to make all convenient Dispatch to Venango and there wait our Arrival, if there was no Prospect of the Rivers Freezing, if not, then to continue down to Shamopin's Town at the Forks of Ohio; and there wait till We came to cross Allegany, intending my Self to go down by Water, as I had the Offer of two or three Canoes.

We found many Persons concerned to retard the Indians Business, and prevent their Journey, with one, Pretence or other, but all Means in my Power to frustrate their Schemes, and hurry them on to execute their intended Design; They accordingly proposed for admittance this Evening which

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which at length was granted them peremptorily, with the Commander, and one or two other Officers. The Old King told me that he offer'd the Thompion to the Commander who dissuaded taking it, and made many fair Promises of love and Friendship, said he wanted to live in Peace and trade amicably with them, as a Proof of which, he would send some Goods immediately down to the Logstown for them; but (I rather think) the Design of that is, to bring away all of our straglers Traders that they may meet with, as I understand by under-hand, they intended to carry an Officer &c. with them and what rather confirms this Opinion, I was enquiring

of

of the Commander, by what Authority he had taken and made Prisoners of several of Our English Subjects. He told me the Country belong'd to them, that no English Man had a Right to Land Upon them Shores, and that he had Orders to make Every Person Prisoner that Attempted it on the Sea, or the Waters of it.

I enquired of Capt. Aquanti about the Boy that was carried by, as it was done while the Command devolved upon him between the Death of the late General, and the Arrival of the Present; He acknowledg'd that a Boy had been carried past & that the Indians had two or three white Scalps of Ours (told by some of the Indians at Venango) but pretended to have forgot the Name of the Place that

that the Boy came from, and all the Particulars, that he Questioned him for some Hours as they were carrying him past — I likewise enquired, where and what they had done with John Trotter, and James M.Clachlan (two Pensylvania) Traders, w.ch they had taken with all their Goods; they told me that they had been sent to Canada, but were not returned Home).

This Evening I received and Answered the Hon.ble Major the Governor's Letter from the Commandant.

16

15. The Commandant ordered a plentiful Use of Liquor, Provisions, &c.a to be put on board our Canoe, and appointed to be extreamly Complaisant, though he was Refusing every

scheme that the Devil and Man could invent, to set Canadians at Variance with Us, to prevent their going with us upon Our Designs, and every thing that could be suggested by him or his Officers, was not neglected to do; - I can't say that ever in my Life I suffered so much Uneasiness as I did in this Affair; I saw that every Stratagem that the most fruitful Brain could invent, was practised to get the Ear of King round to them (Interest, and that leaving of him here was giving them the Opportunity they aimed at: I went to the King and proposed him to go with the strongest Reasons to go. - He told me the Commander would not discharge him till the Spring; I then went to the Commander and desired him

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to.

to do their Business, and com-
plained of ill Treatment, for
keeping them, as they were
part of my Company was de-
taining me, which he promise
not to do, but to forward my
Journey, as much as he could;
He protested he did not keep
them, but was innocent of
the Cause of their Stay; though
I soon found it Out; He had
promised them a Present
of Guns, &c. if they would want
till the Morning. tho. I was
very much oppos'd by the In
dians to wait this Day for
them; I consented on a Pro-
mise, that Nothing should
hinder them in the Morning.

16. The French were not slack
in their Inventions to keep
the Indians this Day also;

but

but as they were Obligated, accord-
ing to promise to give the Fire
first, they then endeavoured to
buy the Power of Liquor; which
I doubt not would have prevail'd
at any other Time than this, but
it Exas'd the King so close upon
his Head, that he refrained, and
set off with Us Northadrongag'd.
We had a tedious and very fa-
tiguing Passage down the Creek,
several Times We had like to
have Stove against Rocks, &
many Times were Obliged to go
to get Out, and remain in the
Water Half an Hour or more
getting Them over the Shoales, in
one Place the Ice had lodg'd &
made it impassable by Water,
therefore We were Obliged to any
Our Canoe across a Neck Land
a quarter of a mile Over, It
did not reach Demango till the
22: where We met with Our

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OFFICE

Horses.

Hansel, - This Creek is extremely crooked, & I dare say the Distance between the Fort and Venango can't be less than 130 Miles to follow the Meanders.

23. When I got Things ready to set off, I sent for the Chief King to know whether they intended to go with Me, or by Water; He told me that the White Thunder had hurt himself much, and was much unable to walk, therefore he was obliged to carry him down in a Canoe; As I found he intended to stay a Day or two here, and knew that Monsieur Joncaire would employ every Scheme to set him against the English, as he had before done, I told him I hoped he would guard against his Flattery, and let no false Reports

(perceived Influenced) them in their
(Favour; He desired I might not
be concerned for he knew the
(French too well for any thing
to engage them in their Behalf;
and though he could not go down
with us, he would endeavour
to meet us the Forts with Joseph
(Chingabee) to deliver a (speech)
for me) to carry to his Honour
the (Governor - He told me he)
would order the (young Hunters)
to attend us, and get (Provision)
&c.a if wanted. - Our Horses were
now so weak & (and feeble), and
the (Baggage heavy: as We were
oblig'd to (provide) all the Ne-
cessaries the Journey would re-
= quire) that I He doubted much
their (performing it, therefore)
my self and others (except the
(Indians) which were obliged to
ride) gave up our Horses for
Packs.

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Packs to assist along with the Baggage; and put my Self in to an Indian Walking Dress and continued with them Three Days till I found there was no Probability of their getting in, in any reasonable Time; The Horses grew less able to travel every Day; The Cold increased very fast, and the Woods were getting much worse by a deep Snow continually Freezing; and as I was uneasy to get back to make a Report of my Proceedings to his Honour the Governor; I determined to prosecute my Journey the nearest way through the Woods on Foot. Accordingly I left Mr. Ormbram in Charge of our Baggage with Money and Directions to provide Necessaries from Place to Place for themselves and Horses

Horses, and to make the most con-
venient Dispatch in I took
my necessary Papers, pull'd off
my Cloaths; tied my self upon
a Mantel Coat, and with my Pack
at my back, with my Papers &
Provisions in it, and a Gun, set
out with Mr Gist, fitted in the
same Manner on Wednesday
the 26th.

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The Day following, just
after We had passed a Place call'd
the Meadowing Town, where We
intended to quit the Path & steer
across the Country for Shannpin's
Town, We fell in with a Party
of French Indians, which had
laid in wait for the one of them
fired at me, & missed me, but fortunately missed;
We took this Fellow into Cus-
tody, and kept him till about
9 o'Clock at Night, and then
let him go, and then Travelled all

the remaining Part of the Night
without making any Stop; that
We might get the Start so far
as to be out of the Reach of their
Pursuit next Day, as were well
assured they would follow upon
our Tract soon as it was light.
The next Day We continued Trav-
elling till it was quite Dark
and got to the Haven about
two Miles above Shamgum. We
expected to have found the
River Froze, but it was not
only about 50 Yards from each
Shoar; the Ice I suppose had
broke up above, for it was
driving in vast Quantities.

There was no way for us
to get over but upon a Raft,
which We set about with but
one poor Hatchet, and got
finished just after Sunsetting
after a whole Day's Work, We
got it launched, and on board

W.

of it, and set off; but before we got half over, we were joined in the most unexpected manner, that we expected every Moment our Craft would sink, and we Drink Salt and my self. Doll. to help stop the Craft, that she might pass by when the Rapidity of the Stream, though it will so much Violence against the Hole that it sink'd me into 10 Foot Water, but I fortunately saved my self by catching hold of one of the Craft Logs. — Notwithstanding all Our Efforts, we could not get the Craft to either Shore, but were obliged, as we were pretty near an Island, to quit our Craft and wade to it; The Cold was so extreem severe, that Mr. Gist got all his Fingers and some of his Toes froze, and the Water was shut up so hard, that we found no Difficulty

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Difficultly in geting off the Island
on the Lee in the Morning and
went to Mr. Frazer's. Here met
three with 20 Warriors that
had been going to the Southward
to War, but coming to a Place
upon the Head of the Great
Cunnuway, where they found
7 People killd, and Scalpt,
all but one Woman with very
Light Hair, they Turned about,
and run back for fear of the
Inhabitants rising & taking
them as the Authors of the
Murder; - They report that
their People were laying about
the House, and some of them
much burnd and cut by Hogs;
by the Marks that were left
they say they were French
Indians of the Ottawa's Nation
&c. that did it. —

As we intended to take
Horses here, and it required
some

some Time to hunt them, Encamt upon a Creek 3 Miles to the South of Yaughyaughgane to west Queen Alleghieppus, who had expressed great Concern that the Skins belonging to the Fort, should be Stolen from them out, and it Rolled of a Drunken Coat, and it Rolled of, Drunken which we thought much the best Present of the two.

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21—

Tuesday. 1st Day of Sept. We left our Encampment Early, and arrived at Alleghenies at Monongahela the 2d. where I bought Horse, Saddle, &c. The 5th We met 17 Horses Loaded with Materials and Stores for a Fort at the Forks, and the 6th Day after a Family or two going out to settle; this Day We arrived at Hills Creek, after a fatiguing Journey as it is possible to conceive, rendered so by excessive bad Weather, Insomuch

the

the first Day of December till the 15th there was but one Day but what it rained or Snow'd incessantly, and throughout the whole Journey We met with nothing but one continued Series of cold Wet Weather which occasioned very uncomfortable Lodgings especially after We had left Our Tents which was some Seven from the Inclemency of it.

On the 11th got to Pelouy, where We Stop'd one Day to take necessary Rest; and then set out for, and arrived at Villamsbang the 16th and waited upon Mr Honour the Governour with the Letter I had brought from the French Commandant, and to give an Account of the Proceedings of my Journey — Which I beg leave

to

to do by opening the Packet, and it contains the most remarkable occurrences that happen'd to me.

I hope it will be sufficient to satisfy Your Honour with my Proceedings: for that was my Aim in undertaking the Journey, and Chief study throughout the Prosecution of it.

With the Assurance and Hope of doing it, I will therefore Please subscribe my self.

A true Copy

Verbatim

W.m W. Rees

Your Honour's most Obed.t and very Humble Servant

G.o Washington.

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146

Copy of Major Washington's Journal to & Transactions with the Commandant of the French forces on the Ohio.

No 35

on the 2d of Inclosed Letter of April 4th 1754.

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4 April 1754

Virginia

Dan. P. Mss.

all imaginable Pains for the Security of his Majestie's Dominions so far as the Provision made by his Assembly will permit him to Act, and that he is very impatient to know the Issue of your Deliberations on this Subject. I cannot, therefore, Doubt but agreable to the Professions in your Message of the Twenty-Seventh of February, 'of being ready and willing to demonstrate your Duty and Loyalty by giving such Sums of Money to the King's Use upon all suitable Occasions as may consist with your Circumstances or can reasonably be expected from this Province,' I say I cannot doubt but you will with the greatest Alacrity lay hold on the present Opportunity of evincing the Sincerity of those Professions by granting such aid to his Majesty as may comport with the Circumstances of the Province and be suitable to the Exigence of the Service; And in the doing of this I hope you will be guided rather by the Importance of the Concern than by the Example of other Colonies, it being found by Experience to be a very ill-judged piece of Oeconomy to cramp an Enterprize of this Nature in the Article of Supplies, and that whatever is given on such Occasions short of being sufficient to accomplish the Ends proposed becomes for the most Part a Waste of so much Treasure without answering any of the Purposes for which it was intended.

"I have at present only to add my Request that whatever you think proper to do on this Occasion may receive all the Dispatch the Nature of the Thing will admit of, the Season of the Year for action advancing so fast that unless our Measures be speedily taken they will I fear be rendered altogether unserviceable.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"April 3d, 1754."

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"As you have signified to me your Willingness to provide for the Expense of sending Commissioners to Albany at the ensuing Treaty to be held there, and also of making a present to the Indians of the Six Nations on Behalf of this Province, I thought it incumbent on me to obtain the best Intelligence I was able of what was proposed to be transacted at that Treaty for the general Benefit and advantage of these Colonies, and of every other Thing relating thereto which I conceived necessary for your Information when you should take this Subject more particularly into Consideration.

"With this view I wrote to Governor Delancey, whom the King has been pleased to set at the Head of this Convention, whose well known Abilities and Experience in Indian Affairs render him in every respect equal to the important Trust. And as he has been pleased by his Letter of the First Instant to communicate his Sen-

timents fully and freely upon the several Points I imagine You will be desirous of being acquainted with, I have chosen to lay the same before You in his own Words, from whence and from what Governor Shirley has so well said upon the same Subject, added to your own Knowledge of the present Circumstances of Affairs, You will be able to offer me your Advice upon this Occasion, to which You may be assured I shall pay the greatest Regard. And I must the rather insist on this as without a perfect Knowledge of your Sentiments from whom all future Supplies upon any Agreement to be made between the several Colonies must come, it will be very difficult if not impossible for me to give such Instructions to the Gentlemen Commissioners on the Part of this Province as may be suitable and adequate to the Purpose.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"April 4th, 1754."

MEMORANDUM.

On the sixth of April the Governor thought it necessary to send Mr. Weiser to Shamokin & to the Sasquehannah Indians to apprize them of the Intentions of the Connecticut People, and to enquire if any Correspondence and what was carried on between them and the Ohio Indians, and what Part they intended to act in the present Situation of Affairs, and to give him a kind Reception with those Indians, the following Message was sent by him:

"Brethren the Delawares and Shawonese at Wyomink on Sasquehanna:

"As Conrad Weiser, Esquire, the Indian Interpreter of this Province, is sent by me on Business with the Six Nations at Shamokin, I have ordered him to call on You to enquire of your health and Affairs, having heard nothing from You for these many Years, tho' as Brethren I should have been well pleased with your News and Accounts of your Welfare.

"Something has been intimated to me as if you had cause of Complaint against some of our Inhabitants; if this should have any Foundation, and You have been in any respect ill used or injured, I desire You will impart your Grievance to Mr. Weiser that he may lay it before me, and You may be assured I will see Justice done to You to your Satisfaction.

"If You are or shall be informed of any News that may affect this Province or Yourselves, I desire you would send me your Informations by some careful Person that You shall think proper to entrust with it, and I will give him a Satisfaction for his Trouble.

"I have no more at present than to assure you of the Continu-

Lieutenant Gov. De Lancey's speech to the Council, & General Assembly of the Colony of New York.

Gentlemen of the Council, & general Assembly.

The Advices I have received during your Recess, are of so interesting a Concern to His Majesty and His American Subjects, as laid me under a Necessity of calling you together thus early for your Advice, & Assistance.

The Progress the French have already made, in taking Possession of his Majesty's Lands, and building Forts upon a most important Pass, between the Lake Erie, & the River Ohio, will appear by the Papers I shall order to be laid before you. 'Tis evident they hope by these Advances, to surround & confine his Majesty's Colonies, as much as possible; and as the Sum Trade depends on the Supplies of Arms, and Ammunition, which

the

the Indians now receive in common from both Nations, the French think, by cutting off all Intercourse between the far Nations of Indians and us, they may in Time, secure the sole Benefit of that Trade to themselves, and attach them so firmly to their Interest, as to be ready at all Times to join in any Attempt they may make on His Majesty's Colonies

The Government of Virginia, sensible of the dangerous Tendency of these Proceedings, is determined if possible, to put a stop to them, and for this Purpose, as they look upon it to be the common Cause of all the Provinces, have requested their Aid and Assistance. Your Loyalty and Affection for His Majesty's Person, and Government, with the late Revolution on the Rt. Honble the Earl of Holderness's

Letter

Letter, which you will see, His Majesty has been most graciously pleased to approve of, give me well grounded Hopes, that you will exert your greatest Efforts, to vindicate the Honor of His Majesty's Crown, and justify his undoubted Rights, against the Invaders of his Property.

Gentlemen of the General Assembly.

In obedience to His Majty's Commands, I must desire you will grant such Supplies as the Exigency of these Affairs may require, by enabling me to raise, & send such Force to the Assistance of our Neighbours, as will leave them no Room to doubt of your Readiness, to take Part in every Expence necessary for the publick Utility.

I am commanded by His majesty, forthwith to send two compleat Companies of the Troops posted here, into the Province of Virginia

Virginia; and shall do it with all possible Dispatch, after you have provided for the Expence of their Transportation; and subsisting them with Provisions for the Time they may be employd on the intended Service; which I earnestly recommend to you to do without Delay.

The six Nations of Indians are justly alarmed at the Encroachments of the French; & unless the Colonies unite in Measures for building Forts in their Country, for their Security, and the safety of the Women and Children when the Men are abroad, & for sending Smiths, and other proper Persons to reside among them, I am apprehensive, we shall lose the little influence we still have over them. This is a Matter that well deserves your serious Attention, as upon it depends, the greatest Security we have for the Fidelity

of

of those People; And altho' it be
reasonable, that the Expence be borne
by the Colonies in general; yet, as
those Nations more immediately
depend upon the Province of New
York, any Scheme for their Safety, &
Protection, will naturally be expected
to take it's Rise here; I will therefore
be shewing your Regard for the
Welfare of this and all the Colonies,
by declaring your Willingness in a
publick Revolution, to bear a
Proportion of the Charge of erecting
and maintaining such Forts. I
have already the Sentiments of
several of His Majesty's Governors
on this Point, and am led, from
the common Danger, to hope for
the Assistance of several of the
neighbouring Colonies, in a Measure
of so general Concern.

And while you have
this Matter under Consideration,
I must

I must recommend to you, that of the
open and defenceless condition of our
Northern Frontier; and that you will
enable me to build some Fort or
Forts, in a proper Situation; tho'
I have used my Endeavours to bring
His Majesty's other Governments
concerned in the Defence of that
Part of the Country, to contribute to
the Charge of erecting as many
Forts on this Quarter, as may be
necessary to guard them and Us, from
the Incursions of the Enemy in
Time of War.

You are well convinced
of the Importance of the Trading
House at Oswego, and therefore I
need use no Arguments to prevail
with you to grant a sufficient Sum
to put that Fortress into thorough
Repair. It appears the most
necessary at this time, as the
French

Incroach in their way to the Ohio, past that Post; and should they suspect it to be unprovided for a Defence, we have no Reason, from their late Proceedings, to doubt they would make an Attempt upon it. I therefore think it highly expedient to order a double Garrison thither of his Majesty's Troops, and wait only for your making suitable Provision for it.

Conveg- Battery in this City, you are sensible is in a ruinous Condition; and I am persuaded you will think it absolutely necessary to put it into good Repair.

I have appointed the 14th of June next, for the Interview with the Six Nations at Albany and as the Time now draws near, you will provide for Presents to be distributed among them at this Meeting, and for the Expence of my Voyage thither.

Gentlemen

Gentlemen of the Council, & General Assembly,

The Matters I have recommended to your Consideration, are of so great Importance, as do not permit me to divert your Attention, by saying any thing else before you at present; I shall therefore only recommend, that you will give them that due Weight & Dispatch they seem to demand of you. And I make no doubt, but the Result of your Deliberations will reflect Honor on yourselves, and be a Benefit to your Country. You may be assured of my hearty, and chearfull Concurrence in every Measure calculated for his Majesty's Service, and the Happiness of the People of this Province.

James De Lancey.

Fort-George New York.
April 9th 1754

To

In the House of Representatives April 12 1754

Ordered that Mr Speaker Mr Wetmore
Col Partridge & Col Worthington with such as
the Hon.ble Board shall Join be a Committee
to Prepare Instructions for the Commissioners that
May be appointed this day to Meet Commissioners
from the Other Governments at Albany in June
Next at the Proposed Interviews with the Six
Nations As also Commissioners from New York
to settle the boundary between this Government
& that of New York

Sent up for Concurrence

T Hubbard Clk

In Council April 15. 1754 Read & Concurd & Benj.
Lynde Esqr. and Mr Oliver Appd. & Stephen Sewall Esqr. are
joined in the Affair

Jno Cotton Dpty Secry

the Treaty at Albany, of whom we approve, and have now voted a Present of Five Hundred Pounds to be by them delivered to the Indians on that Occasion in behalf of this Province.

"Sign'd by Order of the House,

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"In Assembly, 12th April, 1754."

On the thirteenth of April the Governor, by the Secretary, sent down to the House the following Message:

"Gentlemen—

"I called You to meet me in Assembly before the Time to which You stood adjourned to give You an Opportunity of demonstrating your Duty to the King by granting such an Aid to his Majesty as might be sufficient, in Conjunction with the other Colonies, to secure his Dominions against any further Invasion by the French, and, if need should be, to repel the Invaders, and to that Purpose I sent You a Message on the Third Instant. It could not, therefore, but surprize me to find that after so long Deliberation the first Occasion of my hearing from You on that Subject should be to signify to me your Inclination to adjourn to the Thirteenth of May next, without having in any Shape provided for the Service recommended to You.

"I am very unwilling to have any Difference with You on this or any other Occasion where it can possibly be avoided, and therefore, after declaring to You my Opinion that so long an Adjournment will render any Thing You can then propose to do for his Majestie's Service ineffectual to the Ends he has been pleased to recommend, I shall leave You to act therein as to yourselves shall seem most expedient.

"I am pleased, nevertheless, with your Determination to provide for the Expences of the Gentlemen to be appointed on the Part of this Province for conducting the Treaty at Albany, and with the Sum voted as a Present to the Indians on that Occasion. It is likewise a Satisfaction to me to find that the Nomination I have made of Commissioners for that Service is agreeable to You.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"April 13th, 1754."

And on the same Day two Members waited on the Governor and acquainted him that the House having considered his Message, had thought it proper to shorten the Adjournment mentioned in their Message of Yesternight, and to adjourn to the Sixth of the Month called May next.

And then the House adjourned to the Sixth Day of May next.

Present as in the Forenoon

The Board being informed that [illegible]
came hither from Canada had left several
be brought from thence, in the hands of [illegible]
this day, and among which the Board had be[en]
there were several directed to Publick Offices in
M.r Stidwell was sent for and ordered to bring with
the Letters that had been left by M.r Isaac who after
wordingly delivered the same and then withdrew.

Whereupon his Honour required the advice of
Board, if they thought it proper to open any of those
And the Board being of opinion that it would be
advised his Honour to send them to the Ministry.

to be sent to the Ministry.

At Council held at Fort George
in the City of Newyork the 15th day of April
Present
The Hon.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.a

M.r Alexander	M.r Holland
M.r Kennedy	M.r Chambers
M.r Murray	M.r Smith.

Letter from the Board of Trade approving the Resolution for altering the Act [illegible] that may be [illegible]

His Honour Communicated a Letter from the Lords
[illegible] of the 26th February
[illegible] of the several Letters directed by
[illegible] and which their Lord-
[illegible] Letter of the 28th August last, and that
[illegible] of this Province upon the Resolutions
[illegible] and his Honours Letter to be Considered how
[illegible] best to Comply with the Orders to prevent the
[illegible] of Government, they will not be wanting to
[illegible] all in their power whatever may be
proper for the General Security of the whole.

Whereupon advised his Honour to send an Extract
of so much of their Lordships Letter to the General Assembly
and to accompany it with a Message pressing them to grant
Supplies for the present undertakings.

Extract of the Letter to the Assembly

His

Board of Trade dated 27th Ulto,
approbation that an early and gener
claims is finally settled. And that their Lo
shend his Honour may give his assent to a cla
king Provision for additional presents for the In
for defraying the other incidental Expences, it appears
a contingent and temporary service seperate and distin
from the other services of Government.

His Honour informed the Board, that there wer
several French Deserters lately arrived here from Niagara
whom he had before him, and who upon his examining
to the Matters contained in Stephen Ellis's examination
confirmed the Truth of most of the Facts asserted by (Ellis)
that he had given some further intelligence which appear
in a Letter from Doctor Colhoun of the 12th Instant which he
produced before the Board, and that he thought it might
be necessary they should be further examined. Whereupon it
was referred to Mr Kennedy and Mr Holland to take such
further examination.

His Honour then observed to the Board, that among
the Presents ordered by his Majesty, there were several Articles
that could be of no use to the Indians, in which he apprehend
the Gunpowder sent over was not good enough in quality,
being no coarser than common powder, whereas the Indians use
only fine Powder, on which he desired it might be ordered thereupon
by this Board with the advice of the Council that Mr Kennedy
and Mr Holland, be a Committee to examine the Invoice of
the Goods and the Gunpowder, and report to his Honour, the
nature of the Articles among the Presents they judge can be of no use
to the Indians, and whether the Powder be proper for the
Indians or not, to the intent that the same may be disposed
of and other Gunpowder and Goods for Indian Presents pro
vided with the money.

At a Council held at Fort George in the
City of New York the 29th day of April 1764

Present
The Hon[ble] James De Lancey Esq[r] Lieut Gov[r] &c[a]
Mr Alexander
Mr Kennedy
Mr Murray
Mr Holland
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

His

Assembly Chamber the 17th April 1754.

Resolved. That inasmuch as the securing the five Indian Nations and those in Alliance with them, in the British Interest, is of the utmost consequence to all his Majesty's Colonies on the Continent, and as they have requested to have Forts built among them, to secure their Wives and Children when they go out to War on behalf of the British Nation: and as the building such Forts and some others on the Northern parts of this Colony, will cover and in a great measure secure the Settlements of several other of his Majesty's Colonies against the Incursions of the French and their Indians. His Honour the Lieutenant Governor be humbly Addressed to use his Endeavours with the Neighbouring Governments to join with this Colony, in the expence of Erecting & maintaining such Forts, and to assure him that this House will readily come into any well concerted Scheme for that purpose.

Ordered that Mr. Thomas and Mr. Miller wait on his Honour with the said Address.

By Order of the Genl Assembly
Wm Bell junr Clk.

Passed 25th April 1754 A true Copy Examd By
Peyton Randolph Dept

New York 17. April 1754

Vote of the Assembly to com
on Relations & treating
Ind in the Country of the
ee Nations, and on the
Northern part of New York
Province.

The Committee Appointed to prepare Instructions for the Commissioners who are to meet Commissioners from the other Governments at Albany to Consult of the most proper Measures to be taken for the common Defence and also to take the Opinion of Colonel Johnson and Mr Peter Wraxall have attended that Service & Report the Instructions for the Commissioners & the Account of the Expence attending it to be paid by the Board in order to be laid before the Governors Granting Commissions for the Service aforesaid - all which are herewith delivered

Sam. Holden Chairman

Apr. 17. 1754.

Ben. Uphaw Clerk

In Council April 18. 1754. Read & Accepted with the Amendm.t on the Bayon Bordelon and Read. Sent down for Concurrence

J Willard Secry.

In the House of Repres.t April 19.th 1754.

Read & Concurred

Consented to T Hubbard Spk.r

J Willard Secry.

Copy

April 18th 1754 From the Fort on Ohio.

A Speech sent from the Half King Scruniyatha and the Belt of Wampum, To the Governor of Virginia and Governor of Pennsylvania.

Brothers the English, the Bearer is to let you know how We were used by the French, We have been waiting this long Time for the French to strike Us, now We see what they design to do with Us, we are ready to strike them now and wait for your Assistance; be strong and come as soon as possible you can, and you shall find Us your true Brothers, and shall find Us as ready to strike them as you are - We have sent these Two young Men to see when you were ready to come, and then they are to come to Us and let Us know where you are, that We may come and meet you; and We would desire if you could that the Men from both Provinces would meet at the Forks of the Road - And now if you do not come to Our Relief, We are gone entirely, and shall never meet I believe, which grieves my Heart - To confirm this to be a Truth here is my Wampum I have sent -

Gave a String of Wampum.

The Half King made this Speech to me, now I depend upon you to go with those two young Men to both Governors yourself; for I have no Dependance on those that are gone so long, and has never returned or sent any Word.

Delivered to me by John Davison an Interpreter.

† The Name of the Indian Chief.

18th April 1754.

Copy

Speech from the Half King
to the Governors of Virginia and
Pennsylvania.

Conventions

In Council April 18: 1754

150.

Ordered That Samuel Willis Esq. Chancellor
Mr. Hutchinson Peter Faneuil & Josiah Willard
Esq.

Commissioners from this Province to attend the Commissioners from the other Governments on the Continent in America, proposed to be held at Albany on the 14th instant, and that they be authorized in concert with Commissioners from the other Governments, to enter into a Union & Confederation for the General defence & safety of his Majesty's Subjects & Interests in North America against all Enemies and there to advise & consult of such measures as shall be found necessary for preserving & establishing the Friendship & Alliance with the several Nations of Indians to his Majesty our most Gracious Sovereign & their long & constant friendship with his Majesty's most Loyal & faithful Subjects in North America.

Ordered That the Secretary do give notice of the Appointment of the Commissioners therein for that purpose unto the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Which is further ordered by this Court, that the Expence of said Commissioners attending

Read and Accepted as Taken into a
New Draft and Sent Down for Concurrence

Edward Bray

In the House of Representatives April 19th 1754
Read Henceforth

T. Hubbard

In Council, April 18. 1754

Voted that Samuel Welles, John Chandler
Thos Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge &
John Worthington Esqrs (any three of whom to be a Quorum)
be and they hereby are fully authorized
and impowered to represent & appear
for this Province at the General Con=
vention of the British Governmts proposed
to be held at Albany in June next,
and in Concert with Commissrs from
all or any of the said Governmts to
enter into Articles of Agreement and
Confederation, as well offensive as
defensive for their general Safety &
Interest, and for confirming & establish=
ing the ancient & uninterrupted
Attachmt of the Indians of the Six
Nations

Nations to his Majesty our most
Gracious Sovereign, and their long
& constant Friendship with His
Majestys Subjects on this Continent

Sent down for Concurrence
J. Willard Secry.

In the House of Representt April 19th 1754

Read & Committed

T. Hubbard Spkr

Consented to

W Shirley

and we earnestly press you to exert your utmost care, watchfulness & vigour on this interesting & important occasion, at this most critical conjuncture.

In Council April 18. 1754
Read & Resolved that down for concurrence
William Bollan Secy.

In the House of Representatives April 19 1754
Read & Concurred
T. Hubbard Spk.

Committed to
Mr Shirley.

Heads of Instructions for his Commissioners of the Provinces appointed to meet at Albany with Commissioners from the other British Governments on the Continent of America.

Imprs. You are to endeavour that the several Governments enter into a general, firm & perpetual union & confederacy, for mutual assistance by men or money or both, in peace & in war, as the common safety or danger of any one particular of his Majesty's Governm.ts may require.

2. You are directed to agree upon & settle the proportion of the several Governments both as to men & money in all undertakings & charges for the common safety.

3. If the Court defers some measures may be concerted, for an immediate removal of the encroachments made by the French on his Majesty's Territories, as they have made them in direct violation of the treaties & articles of peace subsisting between his Majesty & the French King.

4. As we shall prepare & put into your hands a present for the six Nations, we desire you at your first to let them know that we desire

Brightness & that it may never be broken
but be kept clear & shine as long as the
sun & moon shall endure.

5. We think, it will be proper for you to
agree on some method of putting the
six nations, into a state of more safety,
particularly, by erecting a post or more,
some forts in their own country, to which
their old men, women & children may
repair, when their warriors are abroad
on any excursions.

6. We expect, when the several commis-
sioners are apportioning the charge of
the common defence, that you will remem-
ber the great expence & burden of this Pro-
vince, for more than fifty years past, in
oppressing the french & their Indians, their
& our common enemy; in great part of
which time, we were alone, especially, in
all Queen Anne's long war, besides the ex-
traordinary charge their Province is at in the most
remote & exposed, by Castle William & the va-
rious forts & garrisons in different parts of

Barrier & securing his majesty, other Govern-
: ments on the Continent for such a long
course of time, amounting in the whole to ~~a million pounds Sterling~~ beyond our
just proportion, & well entitled us to
some Reimbursement, or at least to a more
favourable future quota.

7. We think it will be very proper to
concert some method of carrying the desig-
d Diversion, into execution on any sud-
: den emergency, so as not to expose
any particular distrest part to ruin by
too extensive & long consultations, nor
: ouasion of jealousies by a too sud-
: den & unadvised entrance on hazar-
: dous or expensive Enterprizes.

8. As many very weighty concerns &
considerations in the course of this important
affair you are engaging in, may occur on
which cases of distance, we must leave
much to your discretion [illegible]

April the 18th 1754. From the Fort on Ohio

79

A Speech sent by the Half King* Scruniyattha and the Belt of Wampum to the Governour of Virginia and Governour of Pennsylvania.

Brothers the English, The Bearer is to let you know how We were used by the French, We have been waiting this long time for the French to Strike us now we see what they design to do with us We are ready to Strike them now and wait for your afsistance be strong and come as soon as possible you can, and you shall find us your true Brothers and shall find us as ready to strike them as you are We have sent these two Young men to see when you were ready to come, and then they are to come to us and let us know where you are that we may come & meet you and we would desire if you could that the men from both Provinces would meet at the Forks of the Road – and now if you do not come to our Relief we are gone intirely and shall never meet I believe, which grieves my Heart To Confirm this to be Truth here is my Wampum I have sent.

Gave a String of Wampum.

The Half King made this speech to me now I depend upon you to go with those two young men to both Governours yourself for I have no dependence on those that are gone so long and has never returned orsent any word

Delivered to me by John Davison
an Interpreter

* The Name of the Indian Chief.

Philadelphia 6th may 1754. A true Copy Examin'd
by Richard Peters Secretary

Province of the Massachusetts Bay
A True Copy Examined
P Thos Claike D/ty Secry

Copy of Govr Shirleys Speech to the Council & House of Representatives of the Province of the Massachusets Bay, 2^d April 1754.

Gentlemen of the Council & House of Representatives,

The occasion of my speaking to you now is to acquaint you that I received a Letter from the R^t Honble the Lords Comm^rs for Trade & the Plantations, signifying to me, that His Majty had been pleased to order a Sum of Money to be issued for Presents to the six Nations of Indians, & to direct the Govr of New York, to hold an Interview with them for delivering those Presents at such Place & Time as he shall appoint; & I am directed to lay this Matter before you, & to recommend to you to make a proper Provision for appointing Commissioners from this Government to meet Commissioners of

of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, & New Hampshire, to the respective Govrs of which Colonies their Lordships have wrote to the same Effect, as also for making such Presents as hath been usual upon the like Occasions.

I have likewise to acquaint You, that I find by a Paragraph of their L.tre Letter upon this Occasion to the Govr of New York, which His Honour Lt Govr DeLancey Comman.d in Chief of that Province, hath communicated to me, that he is therein directed to take Care, that all the Provinces be (if practicable) comprized in one general Treaty to be made in His Majtys Name, & that Mr. DeLancey hath given me Notice, that he hath appointed the said Interview to be held at the City of Albany on the 14th. of June next.

I am perswaded, Gentlemen, I

need

need not use Arguments to convince
You that it is of very great Consequence
to the Interest of His Majty's Colonies upon
this Continent at all Times, that as
many of the Tribes of Indians inhabiting
it as may be (those of the Six Nations
more especially) should be kept in
Friendship with the English, and a
Dependance upon the Crown of Great
Britain, & that an free & Commerce &
Intercourse should be maintained
with them as is possible; But I think
it my Duty at this Time to enter
into a particular Details of these Matters.

At the Treaty of Utrecht, which is
confirmed by That of Aix la Chapelle,
"There were looked upon to be Points of
"that Importance to the British Interest
"in North America, that Care was taken
"in that Treaty to have the Indians of
"the Six Nations acknowledged by France
"to be subject to the Dominion of Great
"Britain,

" Britain, & it is therein expressly stipulated,
" that the French shall give no Hindrance
" or Molestation either to them, or the
" other Natives of America who were Friends
" to the English, it is also stipulated that
" the Subjects of both Crowns should enjoy
" full Liberty of going or coming upon this
" Continent on account of Trade, & that
" the Natives of the Countries upon it should
" with the same Liberty, resort as they
" please to the British and French
" Colonies for promoting Trade on the one
" Side, & the other without any Molestation
" or Hindrance, either on the part of the
" British Subjects, or of the French.

With regard to the Indians of the Six Nations in particular, I would observe to You, that according to an Account given by them in an open Council at Tiripehawkie, at their Return from the Indian Treaty at Philadelphia in 1742, of the several Indian Nations which have been conquered by them

them I am now in their Alliance, & trade with the English, which Amount seems to be the best we have of that Matter, the Warriors belonging to those Tribes may be computed to amount to 16,000 at least. & the French Indian whom I have retained in His Maty's Service, who must be a good Judge of the Strength of the Five Nations themselves, upon being interrogated by me concerning the Number of their fighting Men, made Answer "That he did not know their Number, but well knew that they are a "numerous People, a terrible Body of "Men, & able to burn all the Indians "in Canada".

You must be sensible Gentlemen, what frequent Attempts the French have made from Time to Time to draw off the Six Nations from the English Interest into their own. & from the repeated Advices We have received from

from His Majesty's Southern Colonies
on this Continent, what Efforts they
have lately exerted to win over their
Allies, together with the other numerous
Tribes inhabiting the vast Country
lying along the great Lakes & Rivers, &
to the Westward of the Apalachean
Mountains, [all which may be rec-
koned to exceed double the Number
of the Indians of the Six Nations &
those in their Alliance,] as also
what Measures the French are
taking to exclude the English from all
Trade & Commerce with those Indians.

To compass this, they have in
manifest Violation of the aforesaid
Treaties, entered the Country of these
Indians upon the Back of His
Majty's Southern Colonies, and within
the Limits of his Territories, with
large Bodies of Troops, seized the

Effects

Effects, & captivated the Persons of the English whom they have found trading there, absolutely denied their Right to Trafficking with those Nations, and erected a Line of Forts upon the Lakes & Rivers from Canada to Mississippi, to cut off all Commerce & Intercourse between them. They have committed Hostilities against some of the Tribes in Friendship with the English, engaged others to take up the Hatchet against them, & threatned those with Destruction who shall interfere in their avowed Design to drive the English out of that Country.

Should the Indians of the Six Nations at this critical Conjuncture desert our Alliance, & go over to the French, how fatal an influence must such an Event have upon the British Interest? On the other Hand, should

should proper Measures be taken
to attach them firmly to it, how greatly
would it disappoint & check the present
Scheme & Interprizes of our dangerous
Neighbours.

It is well known how wavering
the Disposition of these Indians hath of late
been; & how visibly they have abated
their former Enmity to the French, & we
can't be at a Loss to discover the real
Causes of it; Nothing could at this Time
so effectually reclaim them to their old
Alliance with Us, as the Measures directed
to by their Lordships of the Board of
Trade, one general League of
Friendship, comprizing all His Majesty's
Colonies, to be made with them in His
Majesty's Name, with Stipulations to
build such Forts in their Country as
they shall choose, & may be judged
necessary for their Shelter & Protection
against the French.

Such

Such a Coalition of the Colonies for their Defence would be a convincing Proof to them, that they might safely depend upon His Maty for Protection, & confirm them in their antient Alliance with the English; & how necessary such a Confederacy of the Colonies for their Safeguards is, may appear to You from the following Account given by an Indian Trader, who, for more than 20 Years had carried on a Trade among the different Nations of Indians some Hundred Miles West of Philadelphia, the Truth of which I've great Reason to depend upon, Viz: "That in Nov: 1750, he with sundry "other Traders of the English, was taken "Prisoner by some Frenchmen belonging "to a Fort upon the River Ohio, & from "thence was transported from Fort to "Fort to Quebeck, by Means of which "Forts & the Lakes, the French, he says "have

"have a Communication open from Quebec
"to Mississippi. That they have Forts there
"within 20 or 30 Miles Distance of each
"other, with a Command of from 10 to 20
"Men in each; in which he says they
"put the Squa's & Papooses of the Indians
"in Alliance with them for Protection,
"whilst the Men go out to War, & there
"keep them until the Men return. She
"observes, that by Means of these Forts,
"they did fair in a little Time to
"seduce the Indians in Alliance with the
"English, as the English do not afford
"the same Protection to their Women &
"Children, whilst the Men are gone to
"War, as the French do".

I would therefore earnestly recommend to You, Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, to make suitable Provision for sending Commissioners on the Part of this Government, to join in the approaching Interview at Albany, duly

duly authorized to concert such Measures in Conjunction with the Government of New York, & Commissioners of the before mentioned Governments, as shall be judged proper to be entered into, for cementing a firm League of Friendship with the Indians of the Six Nations, & retaining them in the British Interest, and to give those Commissioners full Powers to agree with the other Governments upon the Quota of Money & Men to be furnished by the Province for this Service.

I have taken the Liberty to propose the same thing to be done by the other Governments concerned in this Interview in my Letters to His Majty's Govrs, & have Reason to hope they will promote so salutary a Measure.

Such an Union of Councils besides the happy Effect it will probably

have

have upon the Indians of their Nations may lay a foundation for a general one among all his Majty's Colonies, for the mutual Support & Defence against the present dangerous Enterprizes of the French on every Side of them.

I have already let You know, Gent.n His Majty's Orders to me & his other Govrs upon this Point, signified to us in the Earl of Holderness's Letter of the 28th of last August, & how necessary it is that such an Union should be immediately formed in the Common Cause, whoever takes a survey of the whole Extent of the Invasions and Incroachments which the French are surrounding His Majty's Territories upon this Continent with, from their most Eastern to their most Western Limits must soon be convinced.

Those on the Back of the Settlements of His Majty's Southern Colonies, they are joining Canada to the Mississippi by a Line of Forts & Settlements along the great Lakes

Lakes & Rivers, & cutting off all Commerce
& Intercourse between the English & the
numerous powerfull Tribes of Indians
inhabiting that Country, whom they are
attempting to engage in their Interest by
all Manner of Hostilities & Artifices: &
at the same Time they are pushing on
their Incroachments with equal Vigour
quite round His Majty's Eastern Colonies,
where they have secured all the Indians
in those Parts to join them against
the English.

Should the French prevail in
the former Part of their Scheme, & gain a
general Influence & Dominion over the
Indians behind the Apelachean Mountains,
which they must in the ordinary Course
of human Events do in a short Time, if
they are not timely prevented by an
Union of His Majty's Colonies, they will
have in a very few Years a most
formidable Army of those Indians at
their

their Command, maintained without any Expence to themselves, but on the other Hand, with great Profit, arising from an immense Fur Trade carried on with them: And what fatal Consequences such an army of Warriors (a few of which have been found sufficient to keep a large Frontier in continual Alarm) must have upon all his Majtys Southern Colonies, by continually harrassing them at the Direction of the French, & supported by them from Canada on one Side & Missisippi on the other, & covered in their Retreat behind the Mountains by a strong Line of Forts commanding the Navigation of all the Lakes & Rivers, is easy to conceive, especially if the Indians of the Six Nations should desert our Alliance, & join the French, which must in such Case, be a decisive Blow to the British Interest on that Part of the Continent.

At

At the same time if they are not prevented by a Coalition of the Colonies from finishing the Scheme, which it is most manifest they are forming against the Eastern Provinces, & already far advanced in, they must soon have it in their power equally to distress them likewise; & all the English Colonies will be involved together in one general flame.

It is true, those Colonies are far superiour to the French in their Numbers & Strength, but if that Strength, Gentlemen, is not properly exerted by an Union among themselves, how little will it avail?

It is not difficult to imagine that such a Body of Troops as the French may soon collect, together with the Assistance of all the Indians scattered throughout this Continent, on the Back of the English Colonies (as the French Settlements likewise are) when under the Command of the Gov.r Gen.l of New France, who upon

upon all Emergencies can direct their
Force as he pleases, may reduce a Number
of disunited Provinces, many of them very
remote from each other, tho' much
superiour in Point of the Number of
Inhabitants.

For forming this general Union,
Gentlemen there is no Time to be lost, the
French seem to have advanced further
towards making themselves Masters of
this Continent within these last 5 or 6
Years, than they have done ever since
the first Beginning of their Settlements
upon it, & how determined they are to
accomplish their Scheme as soon as
possible, appears from their breaking thro'
the most recent solemn Treaties &
Agreements made between the two Crowns
in order to effect it.

Gentlemen,

His Majty hath on all Occasions
given the strongest Proof of His paternal
Care

Care of His Colonies, & constant Attention
to their Safety, particularly at this time,
in directing his Govr. to promote this
Union within their respective Governmts.
and I hope You will not be wanting
on your parts to contribute all in your
Power towards effecting it, by improving
the Opportunity which the approaching
Interview with the Indians of the Six
Nations at Albany happily presents for
that Purpose. And I doubt not but that
You may depend on all reasonable Support
and Protection on the Part of His Majty
against all present & future Enterprizes
& Attempts of the French against You.

W. Shirley.

Council Chamber 2. April 1754.

Copy of Govr. Shirley's
Speech to the Council &
House of Representatives
of the Province
Massachusets Bay 2d
April 1754.

Pr. 1/.

in Govr. Shirley's Ltr
of 19th April 1754.

Commissions of Commissioners to Indian Treaty at Albany, 1754.

William Shirley Esqr., Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England.

[L. S.]

To Samuel Wells, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge & John Worthington, Esqr., Greeting:

Whereas, in Pursuance of Letters from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations, dated the 28th of August & 19th of September, 1753, to the Governors of several of his Majesties Plantations in North America, a General Convention of Commissioners for their respective Governments is appointed to be held at the City of Albany in the Month of June next for holding an Interview with the Indians of the five nations, and making them Presents on the Part of the said Governments, usual upon such occasions in order to confirm and Establish their ancient attachments to his Majesty & their constant Friendship to his Majesty's Subjects on this Continent: and Whereas the Great and General Court or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, have elected and appointed you to represent and appear for the said Province at the Convention afores^d, for the Purposes abovementioned: as also for entring into articles of Union and Confederation with the aforesaid Governments for the General Defence of his Majesty's Subjects & Interests in North America as well in time of Peace as of War.

Now I do by these Presents impower & Commissionate you the s^d Samuel Welles, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge & John Worthington as Commissioners (or any three of you) to appear for & represent the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, at the proposed Convention of Commissioners, to be held at the City of Albany in the Month of June Next, then & there to Concert, with the Commissioners (from all or any of his Majesty's British Governments) that may be there Convened, Such Measures as may be judged proper for the Purposes afores^d, and to agree upon the same; and herein you must observe Such Instructions as are herewith delivered you, or may from time to time be given you by the Great & General Court or Assembly of this Province.

Given under my hand & the Publick Seal of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid the nineteenth Day of April, 1754, in the twenty-seventh year of his Majesties Reign.

W. SHIRLEY.

By his Excellency's Command,
J. Willard, Secry.
A true Copy Att^r.

SAMUEL WELLES,
JOHN CHANDLER,
OLR. PARTRIDGE,
JOHN WORTHINGTON.

Province of
New Hampshire.

[Loc. Sig.] George the Second by the Grace of God of great Britain, France & Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas, We have ordered a sum of money to be issued for Presents to the six Nations of Indians, and to direct our Governour of New York to hold an Interview with them for Delivering those Presents, for burying the Hatchet, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and in as much as the attempts that have been made to withdraw them from our Interest, appear to us to make a General Interview more Particularly necessary at this time, and that all our Colonies whose Interest and Security is Connected with, and Depend upon those Indians, Should be Present at, and join in such Interview.

Know ye therefore, that We reposeing much Trust & Confidence in the Integrity & ability of the Honble Theodore Atkinson, Esqr, The Honble Richard Wibird, Esqr, Two of our Council of our said Province. The Honble Meshech Weare, Esqr, Speaker of the General Assembly of our Said Province, & Henry Sherburne, Junr, Esqr, also a Member of the s^d^ General Assembly, Have by & with the advice of our Trusty and well beloved Benning Wentworth, Esqr, our Governour and Commander in Chief of our Province of New Hampshire aforesaid, Named, made, Constituted, and appointed, and We by these Presents, Name, make, Constitute, and appoint the Said Theodore Atkinson, Esqr, Richard Wibird, Esqr, Meshech Weare, Esqr, & Henry Sherburne, Esqr, our True & undoubted Commissioners Hereby Giving unto them full Power and authority as well as our Special Command; to Repair to our City of Albany or Other Place where the Said interview may be held, and Carried on, and there by the whole or the major part of those of them that shall be Present at the Said Interview For us & in our Name together with Such other Commissioners as shall be regularly appointed from our other Colonies and Provinces in America, to attend at the Said Interview to agree upon Consult, & Conclude what may be necesary for Establishing a Sincere & Lasting Friendship and good Harmony with the Said Six Nations of Indians, and if necessary, for us, and in our name to Sign, every thing so agreed upon, & Concluded, and to do, and Transact all matters and things which may appertain to the Finishing the above said Work.

In Testimony Whereof, We have Caused the Seal of our Said Province of New Hampshire to be hereunto affixed, Witness Benning Wentworth, Esqr, our Governour & Commander in Chief of

our Said Province of New Hampshire in New England, this Third day of June, 1754, and in the Twenty Seventh year of our Reign.

B. WENTWORTH.

By his Excellency Command,
THEODORE ATKINSON, Secry.

Copy Ex'r.

THEODORE ATKINSON,
R. WIBIRD,
MESHECH WEARE,
HEN. SHERBURNE, Junr.

—

Whearas His Majesty has been pleased to order a Sum of Money to be issued for Presents to the Six Nations of Indians, & to direct his Governor of New York, to hold an Interview with them for delivering those Presents, for burying the Hatchet, & for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, & whereas, in Obediance to his Majesties pleasure, signified to them by the Lords of Trade, His Majesties several Colonies on this Continent, have Resolved to Join in such Interview, & have made a Provision for sending each their Commissioners with such Presents as have been usual on like occasions to the said Indian Nations, as a means of securing more effectually their affections to His Majesty & the British Interest. Now in dutifull Compliance with his Majesty's requisition, as well as from a Sense of the importance it must be of to us, & the several neighbouring Provinces, that those Nations be retained in our Allience, more Especially at this time, when our Enemies are endeavouring to withdraw them from our friendship, we have thought fit to Commission you Col°. Benjamin Tasker & Major Abraham Barnes, fully trusting in your known abilities & approved honour, to represent this Province at the Interview appointed to be held at Albany, the 14th of June next, & then & there to renew the Covenant Chain, & enter into a League of Amity with the said Indian Nations, & you shall deliver to them with such Speeches as have been used on similar Occasions, a Present as from his Majesty's dutifull Subjects of this Province of Maryland, in Money or goods, (as to you shall appear most proper,) to the Value of five Hundred pounds Current Money of this Province, which money you will receive from the Treasurer of the Western Shore, & for the better conducting yourselves in regard to the manner & form of the Treaty to be entered into at Albany with the said Six Allied Nations, You shall refer yourselves for Directions to the Honourable James Delancey, Esq., His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor of New York. And whereas, I have had Information that the Commiss^rs from the several neighbouring Colo-

nies will receive Instructions from their respective Governments to concert Measures with the Commissioners from the other Provinces, for the better Securing these Indians for the future in our Alliance, & preventing their being alienated from our Interest by the artificies or Insinuations of our Enemy, as well as for the more easy Defence of his Majesties Dominions on this Continent; You shall if any Propositions of that nature are made by the Commiss^{rs} in behalf of their respective Governments, let them know that this Province is also Disposed to Contribute to the Execution of any General Scheme to promote such desirable Ends, & you will take care to observe well what Propositions, shall, or may be made Concerning such general Scheme, & commit the substance thereof to writing for my information, & to be laid before the General Assembly for their Consideration. But you are to understand that you are not impowered to Stipulate, or engage that this Province will advance any Sum of Money or Number of Men, towards erecting Forts or garrissoning them, or to any such purposes: but you shall only well observe what Proposals are made by the other Commiss^{rs}, & endeavour to learn how far the Execution of what they may propose can be Necessary or usefull, & Consider well the Reasonableness of any such Propositions, & inform yourselves whether the other Commiss^{rs} are authorized to Stipulate & agree thereon, & at your return you shall inform me of these several particulars, & any other things that may possibly occur to your notice, that I may not be ignorant after what manner we can best contribute to the success of any such scheme as shall be proposed at the aforesaid Interview for the Defence or Utility of his Majesty's American Dominions & Subjects.

HORO. SHARPE.

Annapolis, May 30th, 1754.
A true copy examined by

BENJ. TASKER, Jr.,
A. BARNES.

{ Sigillum Coloniæ Connecticutensis. } Thomas Fitch, Esqr, Governor and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England, in America.

To William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott, Junr, and Elisha Williams, Esq^{rs}, Greeting:

Whereas you are by the General Assembly of said Colony nominated and appointed to be Commissioners in behalf of said Colony, to meet such Commissioners as are or shall be appointed by his

Majesty's other Governments in America, at a general interview at Albany on the 14th day of June next, & join with them in concerting proper measures for the general defence and Safety of his Majesty's Subjects in said Governments & the Indians in Alliance with them, against the French & their Indians.

Therefore, in pursuance of said Act of Assembly, You, the said William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott, Junr, & Elisha Williams, Esqrs, are Commissioned, authorized & impowered, in behalf of his Majesty's Colony of Connecticutt, to meet the Commissioners appointed by his Majesty's other governments in America, at Albany, on the 14th day of June, next, & in concert with such Commissioners from his Majesty's other Governments as shall meet there to consult proper measures for the general defence & Safety of his Majesty's Subjects in said Governments, & the Indians in his Allience, against the French & their Indians; and to use & pursue proper measures in pursuance of your instructions from the said General Assembly, relating to the matters aforesd.

Given under my hand and the public Seal of the Colony of Connecticutt, in Hartford, this 30th day of May, Anno regni Regis Geogij 2di Magn. Britan. &c., 27mo Annoq. Domini, 1754.

THOMAS FITCH.

By his Honour's command.
GEORGE WYLLYS, Secret'y.

A true Copy. Test[us]. WM. PITKIN, ROGER WOLCOTT, Junr, ELISHA WILLIAMS. } Comisso[rs].

[Locus Sigilli.] By the honble William Greene, Esqr, Governor and Captain General of the English Colony of Rhode Island, and Providence Plantations in New England, in America.

To Stephen Hopkins & Martin Howard, Junr, Esqrs, Greeting:

Whereas the General Assembly of this Colony have on their Parts chosen and appointed you to meet with the Comissioners of the other Governments, at Albany, on the fourteenth Day of this Instant, June, and Join with them in a Treaty with the Six Nations of Indians, in order to Secure the Interest of his Majesty and his good Subjects in those Parts.

I do, therefore, by Virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of this Colony, authorize, impower & comissionate you, the said Stephen Hopkins and Martin Howard, Junr, forthwith to repair to Albany, aforesd, and there in behalf of this Colony, to meet & Join with the

other Comissioners in consulting what methods are proper to be Used to preserve the Friendship of the aforesaid Six Nations of Indians, and their Attachments to the British Interest in America, and also what else may be Necessary, to prohibit the French & their Allies, the Indians, from Encroaching on the Lands within the Dominions of his Majesty. And in General, as far as the abilities of this Government will permit, to act in Conjunction with the said Commissioners in every thing Necessary for the good of his Majestie's Subjects in those Parts, and to answer as far as we can the Designs of his Majesty's Instructions to this Colony, comunicated to us by the Earl of Holderness.

In Testimony whereof, I do hereunto set my hand, & cause the Seal of the Colony aforesaid to be hereunto affixed, this twelfth day of June, one Thousand Seven Hundred & fifty-four, & in the twenty Seventh year of the Reign of his most sacred Majesty, George the Second, by the Grace of God, King of Gr^t^ Brit^n^, &c.

W. GREENE.

By his honour's Command.
THO. WARD, Sec'ry.

A true Copy, Exam^d^ by STEP. HOPKINS,
MAR. Howard, Jr.

Pennsylvania, ss.

George the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King Defender of the faith, &c. To our Trusty and well-beloved John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, of the city of Philadelphia, Esq^rs^, Greeting:

Whereas the Honorable James Delancey, Esqr, our Lieutenant Governor and Comander-in-Chief of our Province of New York, has received our Directions to hold an Interview with our Loving and good Allies, the Six united Nations of Indians, at the City of Albany, within our said Province, for delivering to them our Presents, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and has fixed upon the fourteenth day of June ensuing for this purpose; and it has been usual when an Interview has been held with these Indians, for all Majestie's Colonies whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them, to Join in Such interview, and it appears to us that the Present Disposition of those Indians, and the Attempts that have been made to withdraw them from our Interest, do make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this Time, when the Subjects of the French King have actually marched into, and erected Forts, and committed Hostilities within the known Limits of our Dominions. Know Ye, that reposing Special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Abilities, and Prudence, We have thought

fit to nominate and appoint you, the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, and Every of you, our Comissioners on Behalf of our Governor of our Province of Pennsylvania, aforesaid, in Conjunction with our Lieutenant Governor of New York, and with the Commissioners of the other Governments, to treat with the Six united Nations of Indians at Albany, or with their, or any, or every of their Chiefs or Delegates, and with them to renew, ratify, and Confirm the Leagues of Amity Subsisting between us and the said Nations of Indians, and to make them the Present that have been provided for them by the Governor and Assembly of our said Province of Pennsylvania, and further to do, act, transact, and finally to Conclude and agree with the Indians aforesaid, all and every other Matter and thing which to you shall appear Necessary for the engaging them heartily in our Interest, and for frustrating any attempts which have been made to withdraw them from it, as fully and amply to all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes, as our Governor of our Province of Pennsylvania aforesaid, might or could do being Personally present. Hereby ratifying, confirming, and holding for firm and effectual, whatsoever you, the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, or any of you, shall lawfully do in and about the Premises. In Testimony whereof, we have caused the great Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness, James Hamilton, Esqr, (by Virtue of a Commission from Thomas Penn, & Richard Penn, Esq^rs, true and absolute Proprietaries of the said Province, and with our Royal approbation,) Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province aforesaid and Counties of New Castle, Kent & Sussex, upon Delaware, at Philadelphia, the thirteenth Day of May, in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven hundred & fifty-four, and in the twenty-seventh of our Reign.

JAMES HAMILTON.*

A true Copy, Ex. RICHARD PETERS,
IS. NORRIS,
B. FRANKLIN.

Indorsed.

Copies—Forms of the Comissions from the several Governors to the several Gentlemen appointed to hold a Treaty with the Six Nation Indians at Albany, June, 1754.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI. pp. 23, 45, 47, 57—133.

Commissions of Commissioners to Indian Treaty at Albany, 1754.

William Shirley Esqr., Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of the Massa-
[L S.] chusetts Bay in New England.

To Samuel Wells, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge & John Worthington, Esqr., Greeting:

Whereas, in Pursuance of Letters from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations, dated the 28th of August & 19th of September, 1753, to the Governors of several of his Majesties Plantations in North America, a General Convention of Commissioners for their respective Governments is appointed to be held at the City of Albany in the Month of June next for holding an Interview with the Indians of the five nations, and making them Presents on the Part of the said Governments, usual upon such occasions in order to confirm and Establish their ancient attachments to his Majesty & their constant Friendship to his Majesty's Subjects on this Continent: and Whereas the Great and General Court or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, have elected and appointed you to represent and appear for the said Province at the Convention afores^{d}, for the Purposes abovementioned: as also for entring into articles of Union and Confederation with the aforesaid Governments for the General Defence of his Majesty's Subjects & Interests in North America as well in time of Peace as of War.

Now I do by these Presents impower & Commissionate you the s^{d} Samuel Welles, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge & John Worthington as Commissioners (or any three of you) to appear for & represent the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, at the proposed Convention of Commissioners, to be held at the City of Albany in the Month of June Next, then & there to Concert, with the Commissioners (from all or any of his Majesty's British Governments) that may be there Convened, Such Measures as may be judged proper for the Purposes afores^{d}, and to agree upon the same; and herein you must observe Such Instructions as are herewith delivered you, or may from time to time be given you by the Great & General Court or Assembly of this Province.

Given under my hand & the Publick Seal of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid the nineteenth Day of April, 1754, in the twenty-seventh year of his Majesties Reign.

W. SHIRLEY.

By his Excellency's Command,
J. Willard, Secry.
A true Copy Att^{r}.

SAMUEL WELLES,
JOHN CHANDLER,
OLR. PARTRIDGE,
JOHN WORTHINGTON.

Province of
New Hampshire.

[Loc. Sig.] George the Second by the Grace of God of great Britain, France & Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas, We have ordered a sum of money to be issued for Presents to the six Nations of Indians, and to direct our Governour of New York to hold an Interview with them for Delivering those Presents, for burying the Hatchet, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and in as much as the attempts that have been made to withdraw them from our Interest, appear to us to make a General Interview more Particularly necessary at this time, and that all our Colonies whose Interest and Security is Connected with, and Depend upon those Indians, Should be Present at, and join in such Interview.

Know ye therefore, that We reposeing much Trust & Confidence in the Integrity & ability of the Honble Theodore Atkinson, Esqr., The Honble Richard Wibird, Esqr, Two of our Council of our said Province. The Honble Meshech Weare, Esqr, Speaker of the General Assembly of our Said Province, & Henry Sherburne, Junr, Esqr, also a Member of the s^d^ General Assembly, Have by & with the advice of our Trusty and well beloved Benning Wentworth, Esqr, our Governour and Commander in Chief of our Province of New Hampshire aforesaid, Named, made, Constituted, and appointed, and We by these Presents, Name, make, Constitute, and appoint the Said Theodore Atkinson, Esqr, Richard Wibird, Esqr, Meshech Weare, Esqr, & Henry Sherburne, Esqr, our True & undoubted Commissioners Hereby Giving unto them full Power and authority as well as our Special Command; to Repair to our City of Albany or Other Place where the Said interview may be held, and Carried on, and there by the whole or the major part of those of them that shall be Present at the Said Interview For us & in our Name together with Such other Commissioners as shall be regularly appointed from our other Colonies and Provinces in America, to attend at the Said Interview to agree upon Consult, & Conclude what may be necesary for Establishing a Sincere & Lasting Friendship and good Harmony with the Said Six Nations of Indians, and if necessary, for us, and in our name to Sign, every thing so agreed upon, & Concluded, and to do, and Transact all matters and things which may appertain to the Finishing the above said Work.

In Testimony Whereof, We have Caused the Seal of our Said Province of New Hampshire to be hereunto affixed, Witness Benning Wentworth, Esqr, our Governour & Commander in Chief of

our Said Province of New Hampshire in New England, this Third day of June, 1754, and in the Twenty Seventh year of our Reign.

B. WENTWORTH.

By his Excellency Command,
THEODORE ATKINSON, Secry.

Copy Ex'r.

THEODORE ATKINSON,
R. WIBIRD,
MESHECH WEARE,
HEN. SHERBURNE, Junr.

—

Whearas His Majesty has been pleased to order a Sum of Money to be issued for Presents to the Six Nations of Indians, & to direct his Governor of New York, to hold an Interview with them for delivering those Presents, for burying the Hatchet, & for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, & whereas, in Obediance to his Majesties pleasure, signified to them by the Lords of Trade, His Majesties several Colonies on this Continent, have Resolved to Join in such Interview, & have made a Provision for sending each their Commissioners with such Presents as have been usual on like occasions to the said Indian Nations, as a means of securing more effectually their affections to His Majesty & the British Interest. Now in dutifull Compliance with his Majesty's requisition, as well as from a Sense of the importance it must be of to us, & the several neighbouring Provinces, that those Nations be retained in our Allience, more Especially at this time, when our Enemies are endeavouring to withdraw them from our friendship, we have thought fit to Commission you Col°. Benjamin Tasker & Major Abraham Barnes, fully trusting in your known abilities & approved honour, to represent this Province at the Interview appointed to be held at Albany, the 14th of June next, & then & there to renew the Covenant Chain, & enter into a League of Amity with the said Indian Nations, & you shall deliver to them with such Speeches as have been used on similar Occasions, a Present as from his Majesty's dutifull Subjects of this Province of Maryland, in Money or goods, (as to you shall appear most proper,) to the Value of five Hundred pounds Current Money of this Province, which money you will receive from the Treasurer of the Western Shore, & for the better conducting yourselves in regard to the manner & form of the Treaty to be entered into at Albany with the said Six Allied Nations, You shall refer yourselves for Directions to the Honourable James Delancey, Esq., His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor of New York. And whereas, I have had intimation that the Commiss" from the several neighbouring Colo-

nies will receive Instructions from their respective Governments to concert Measures with the Commissioners from the other Provinces, for the better Securing these Indians for the future in our Alliance, & preventing their being alienated from our Interest by the artificies or Insinuations of our Enemy, as well as for the more easy Defence of his Majesties Dominions on this Continent; You shall if any Propositions of that nature are made by the Commiss^{rs} in behalf of their respective Governments, let them know that this Province is also Disposed to Contribute to the Execution of any General Scheme to promote such desirable Ends, & you will take care to observe well what Propositions, shall, or may be made Concerning such general Scheme, & commit the substance thereof to writing for my information, & to be laid before the General Assembly for their Consideration. But you are to understand that you are not impowered to Stipulate, or engage that this Province will advance any Sum of Money or Number of Men, towards erecting Forts or garrissoning them, or to any such purposes: but you shall only well observe what Proposals are made by the other Commiss^{rs}, & endeavour to learn how far the Execution of what they may propose can be Necessary or usefull, & Consider well the Reasonableness of any such Propositions, & inform yourselves whether the other Commiss^{rs} are authorized to Stipulate & agree thereon, & at your return you shall inform me of these several particulars, & any other things that may possibly occur to your notice, that I may not be ignorant after what manner we can best contribute to the success of any such scheme as shall be proposed at the aforesaid Interview for the Defence or Utility of his Majesty's American Dominions & Subjects.

HORO. SHARPE.

Annapolis, May 30th, 1754.
A true copy examined by

BENJ. TASKER, Jr.,
A. BARNES.

{Sigillum Coloniæ Connecticutensis.} Thomas Fitch, Esqr, Governor and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England, in America.

To William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott, Junr, and Elisha Williams, Esqr, Greeting:

Whereas you are by the General Assembly of said Colony nominated and appointed to be Commissioners in behalf of said Colony, to meet such Commissioners as are or shall be appointed by his

Majesty's other Governments in America, at a general interview at Albany on the 14th day of June next, & join with them in concerting proper measures for the general defence and Safety of his Majesty's Subjects in said Governments & the Indians in Alliance with them, against the French & their Indians.

Therefore, in pursuance of said Act of Assembly, You, the said William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott, Junr, & Elisha Williams, Esqrs, are Commissioned, authorized & impowered, in behalf of his Majesty's Colony of Connecticutt, to meet the Commissioners appointed by his Majesty's other governments in America, at Albany, on the 14th day of June, next, & in concert with such Commissioners from his Majesty's other Governments as shall meet there to consult proper measures for the general defence &, Safety of his Majesty's Subjects in said Governments, & the Indians in his Allience, against the French & their Indians; and to use & pursue proper measures in pursuance of your instructions from the said General Assembly, relating to the matters aforesd.

Given under my hand and the public Seal of the Colony of Connecticutt, in Hartford, this 30th day of May, Anno regni Regis Geogÿ 2di Magn. Britan. &c., 27mo Annoq. Domini, 1754.

THOMAS FITCH.

By his Honour's command.
GEORGE WYLLYS, Secret'y.

A true Copy. Test^{ms}.
WM. PITKIN,
ROGER WOLCOTT, Junr,
ELISHA WILLIAMS.
} Comissors.

[Locus Sigilli.] By the honble William Greene, Esqr, Governor and Captain General of the English Colony of Rhode Island, and Providence Plantations in New England, in America.

To Stephen Hopkins & Martin Howard, Junr, Esqrs, Greeting:

Whereas the General Assembly of this Colony have on their Parts chosen and appointed you to meet with the Comissioners of the other Governments, at Albany, on the fourteenth Day of this Instant, June, and Join with them in a Treaty with the Six Nations of Indians, in order to Secure the Interest of his Majesty and his good Subjects in those Parts.

I do, therefore, by Virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of this Colony, authorize, impower & comissionate you, the said Stephen Hopkins and Martin Howard, Junr, forthwith to repair to Albany, aforesd, and there in behalf of this Colony, to meet & Join with the

other Comissioners in consulting what methods are proper to be Used to preserve the Friendship of the aforesaid Six Nations of Indians, and their Attachments to the British Interest in America, and also what else may be Necessary, to prohibit the French & their Allies, the Indians, from Encroaching on the Lands within the Dominions of his Majesty. And in General, as far as the abilities of this Government will permit, to act in Conjunction with the said Commissioners in every thing Necessary for the good of his Majestie's Subjects in those Parts, and to answer as far as we can the Designs of his Majesty's Instructions to this Colony, comunicated to us by the Earl of Holderness.

In Testimony whereof, I do hereunto set my hand, & cause the Seal of the Colony aforesaid to be hereunto affixed, this twelfth day of June, one Thousand Seven Hundred & fifty-four, & in the twenty Seventh year of the Reign of his most sacred Majesty, George the Second, by the Grace of God, King of Gr^{t} Brit^{n}, &c.

W. GREENE.

By his honour's Command.

THO. WARD, Sec'ry.

A true Copy, Exam^{d} by STEP. HOPKINS,
MAR. Howard, Jr.

—

Pennsylvania, ss.

George the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King Defender of the faith, &c. To our Trusty and well-beloved John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, of the city of Philadelphia, Esq^{rs}, Greeting:

Whereas the Honorable James Delancey, Esqr, our Lieutenant Governor and Comander-in-Chief of our Province of New York, has received our Directions to hold an Interview with our Loving and good Allies, the Six united Nations of Indians, at the City of Albany, within our said Province, for delivering to them our Presents, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and has fixed upon the fourteenth day of June ensuing for this purpose; and it has been usual when an Interview has been held with these Indians, for all Majestie's Colonies whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them, to Join in Such interview, and it appears to us that the Present Disposition of those Indians, and the Attempts that have been made to withdraw them from our Interest, do make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this Time, when the Subjects of the French King have actually marched into, and erected Forts, and committed Hostilities within the known Limits of our Dominions. Know Ye, that reposing Special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Abilities, and Prudence, We have thought

fit to nominate and appoint you, the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, and Every of you, our Comissioners on Behalf of our Governor of our Province of Pennsylvania, aforesaid, in Conjunction with our Lieutenant Governor of New York, and with the Commissioners of the other Governments, to treat with the Six united Nations of Indians at Albany, or with their, or any, or every of their Chiefs or Delegates, and with them to renew, ratify, and Confirm the Leagues of Amity Subsisting between us and the said Nations of Indians, and to make them the Present that have been provided for them by the Governor and Assembly of our said Province of Pennsylvania, and further to do, act, transact, and finally to Conclude and agree with the Indians aforesaid, all and every other Matter and thing which to you shall appear Necessary for the engaging them heartily in our Interest, and for frustrating any attempts which have been made to withdraw them from it, as fully and amply to all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes, as our Governor of our Province of Pennsylvania aforesaid, might or could do being Personally present. Hereby ratifying, confirming, and holding for firm and effectual, whatsoever you, the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, or any of you, shall lawfully do in and about the Premises. In Testimony whereof, we have caused the great Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness, James Hamilton, Esqr, (by Virtue of a Commission from Thomas Penn, & Richard Penn, Esq^{rs}, true and absolute Proprietaries of the said Province, and with our Royal approbation,) Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province aforesaid and Counties of New Castle, Kent & Sussex, upon Delaware, at Philadelphia, the thirteenth Day of May, in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven hundred & fifty-four, and in the twenty-seventh of our Reign.

JAMES HAMILTON.*

A true Copy, Ex. RICHARD PETERS,
IS. NORRIS,
B. FRANKLIN.

Indorsed.

Copies—Forms of the Comissions from the several Governors to the several Gentlemen appointed to hold a Treaty with the Six Nation Indians at Albany, June, 1754.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI. pp. 23, 45, 47, 57—133.

New York 22d April 1754.

Sir

I had the favour of your Letter of the seventh of March last, acknowledging the receipt of the box of Publick Papers directed to the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations. I am pleased their Lordships have approved the steps I have taken for an early and General meeting with the Indians, and hope the result of it will prove of general Utility.

The Assembly have voted £200 for Presents to the Indians at this Interview, and £150 for the expences of my Voyage to Albany, which I believe will prove but a scanty allowance, if the Commissioners expected from the Neighbouring Governments should be there; as I shall be Obliged in honor to the Character I sustain, to keep a good Table, which will fall heavy on a Lieut. Governor without Salary. Massachusets Bay and Pensilvania will send Commissioners from New Hampshire I have not heard.

John Pownall Esq.

heard nothing; what the Jerseys will do depends on their present deliberations, their Assembly now Sitting. I have wrote to the Governor of Connecticut on this head, and am encouraged by his letter to expect Commissioners from thence. I wrote at the same time to the Governor of Rhode Island, but have had no answer. I thought it my duty to try what could be obtained from these Governments as I did not find in the box which I had received from their Lordships, that there were letters directed to these two.

The letters from my Lord Halifax and you, with the two packets for your Brother I delivered to Mr. Williams, as he had desired in case any letters came to my hands for him in his Absence. They were forwarded to Philadelphia, whither he went to see that City and the Country. I had a Letter from him by Saturdays Post, acknowledging the Receipt of the letters and packets, and acquainting me of his speedy return to this place. So that tho' he is well, you will not perhaps hear from him by this conveyance as the

Ship

Ship sails to morrow.

I found your Brother a very ingenious Man, and was pleased with his conversation, and glad to do him any little Civilities under his disappointment in the loss of his Worthy friend, which do not deserve the great thanks you so kindly expres to me.

I am

Sir

Your most obedient &
most humble Servant
James De Lancey

New York

Letter from James Delancey Esq.r Lieu.t Gov.r & Comander in Chief of New York, to Mr. Pownall dated y.e 22.d of April 1754. in Answer to one from him, of the 7.th of March

Rec.d June. y.e 12 } 1754.

Kk. 6.

New York 22d April 1751.

My Lords

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

I had the Honour of your Lordships Letter of the 26th of February last, on the 15th Instant: I shall endeavour to give due attention to the matters your Lordships recommend, and shall strictly follow the Directions contained in your Letter to Sir Dawers Osborn.

The Arguments I have used to the Neighbouring Governments, to induce them to send Commissioners to the Albany Treaty, are, that as his Majesty had been graciously pleased to order the Indians a present and had directed the several Governments to send Commissioners to this Interview, the Indians seeing them there, and being told they

are

Rd 3d Augt: the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations —

are all met by order from the great King their Father on the other side of the big Lake, and that they are to act in concert for the mutual advantage of them and us: may be emboldened to act with vigour in the British Interest against the French. That your Lordships intention was that a Treaty be made in his Majesty's Name, between the Indians and all the Provinces; and that I proposed at this Interview to unite, as far as possible, all the Indians in Alliance with us into a firm and lasting peace with each other, and to this purpose to lay before them their folly in waging War with those who are Children of the same Father the King, and are all are all Brethren to the English; to represent to them the artifice of the French who persuade them into so absurd a practice;

to

to alarm them at the French building Forts on the Lands conquered by and belonging to them on the Lake Erie and the River Ohio, thereby excluding them from a free and open communication with the far Indians and those in Alliance with us: and lastly principally to concert measures among the Commissioners at this Interview for building Forts in such part of the Indian Country for their protection, as may encourage them (by seeing their Wives and Children will be secured and a retreat afforded themselves) to declare openly and cordially for us.

If something of this kind be done, some reasonable and equal plan concerted of expence and Operations: I am prowaded the Indians might be brought wholly back into our Interests, and to join us readily in dislodging the French from our side of the Lakes: till some such measures be taken I

cannot

cannot have a great dependence on their acting with vigour, we must shew them the way, and shew them too that there will be safety in adhering wholly to the British Interest.

The Intelligence I sent Your Lordships from the Officer at Oswego, was given by Stephen Coffen, the same Man whom Coll.o Johnson found working in the Mohawks Country, whose Deposition he took; a Copy of which I now inclose. Whether his fears of the French while at Oswego, made him conceal the truth, or whether the Officer at Oswego was Negligent in his Examination I know not, but the truth of his Deposition is fully confirmed, by Intelligence we have received Several ways; it was brought and delivered to me by Coll.o Johnson the 18.th of February last. I took care to have Copies immediately sent

to

to the Governors of Pensilvania, Maryland and Virginia. The inclosed Intelligence from the Officer at Oswego I yesterday dispatched by Expresse to the same Governors.

I have received the copy of the Invoice of the presents directed by his Majesty to be given to the Indians, and I have an account from the Secretary to the Board of Ordnance that the remaining Guns are sent which are arrived.

On the 17th Instant I sent an Extract of that part of your Lordships Letter, which relates to the Resolution of the Assembly of the 13th of November last, on the Earl of Holdernesse's Letter to them. I had before at the opening of the Sessions, communicated my Lord Holdernesse's Letter of the 18th of January last, wherein his Lordship signifies, that his Majesty had

had been graciously pleased to approve of
that Resolution, which I in my Speech had
urged as a motive to induce them to exert their
greatest efforts, to vindicate the Honour of the
Crown, and justify his Majesty's undoubted
Rights against the Invaders of his property.
I accompanied the Extract of your Lordships
Letter with the Intelligence from the Officer
at Oswego, and a Message to the House, signify-
ing that they would perceive by the Letter from
the Earl of Holderness, which was already
before them, and the Extract from your
Lordship's Letter, that their Resolution had
raised a just expectation in his Majesty and
his Ministers, that they would act in a man-
ner suitable to that Resolution; and therefore

earnestly

earnestly recommending to them, now the French were in Motion, and with an apparent intention to invade one of his Majesty's Colonies, that they would exert themselves on this occasion, and enable me to give such Assistance to the Colony of Virginia as the present Exigency demanded.

They have Voted only £1000 for Provisions for the two Independent Companies which his Majesty has Ordered into Virginia from hence, the reasons they urge for not going higher (in their Address to me) are, a great debt from the expence of the late War, the necessity of repairing the Fortifications and out Garisons; the expence of a double Garison at Oswego, and the building Forts in the Indian Country and on our Northern Frontiers: and as they have come to a Resolution to bear an equal proportion of the charge of

building

building those Forts, I have sent Copies of it to the Governors of Virginia, Maryland, Pensilvania New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island — Massachusets-Bay and New Hampshire, that they may use their endeavours to bring their Assemblies to join in this Expence: all which will require a large Sum of money, and renders them unable to afford that Assistance they would otherwise willingly give.

They have also Voted for the additional men to strengthen the Garison at Oswego £156 this is an annual expence

For presents to the Indians	800
my Expences to Albany	150
Annual Commissioners for Ind^{n} affairs	170
Indian Interpreter	50
Officer at Oswego	25

this

this last is for trifles to be given the Indians when they visit the Officer at Oswego, which have often a better effect than larger at other times.

They have Resolved to provide for the repair of the Fortress at Oswego and desired me to give directions for doing it. which I have accordingly done.

I should have sent your Lordships some papers relating to the Jersey line, but must defer it till the next opportunity, as the Maps & clear up that matter are not yet completed.

I am

My Lords

Your Lordships

most obedient & most humble Servant.

James De Lancey

d

New York

Letter from James De Lancey Esqr. Lieut. Govr. & Commander in Chief of New York, to the Board, dated the 22d. of April 1754. relating to Indian Affairs Enclosing

Recd. June 7 } 1754.
Read — 12 }

Kk 1.

12

THE SPEECH OF

The Honourable JAMES DE LANCEY, Esq;

His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of *New-York*, and Territories depending thereon in *America* :

TO

The Council and General Assembly of the said Province.

Gentlemen of the Council, and General Assembly,

THE Advices I have received during your Recess, are of so interesting a Concern to his Majesty, and his *American* Subjects, as laid me under a Necessity of calling you together thus early, for your Advice and Assistance.

THE Progress the *French* have already made, in taking Possession of his Majesty's Lands, and building Forts upon a most important Pass, between the Lake *Erie* and the River *Ohio*, will appear by the Papers I shall order to be laid before you. 'Tis evident, they hope by these Advances, to surround and confine his Majesty's Colonies as much as possible ; and as the Furr Trade depends on the Supplies of Arms and Ammunition, which the *Indians* now receive in common from both Nations, the *French* think, by cutting off all Intercourse between the far Nations of *Indians* and us, they may in Time, secure the sole Benefit of that Trade to themselves, and attach them so firmly to their Interest, as to be ready at all Times to join in any Attempts they may make on his Majesty's Colonies.

THE Government of *Virginia*, sensible of the dangerous Tendency of these Proceedings, is determined if possible, to put a Stop to them ; and for this Purpose, as they look upon it to be the common Cause of all the Provinces, have requested their Aid and Assistance. Your Loyalty and Affection for his Majesty's Person and Government, with the late Resolution on the Right Honourable the Earl of *Holderneſſe*'s Letter, which you will see, his Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of, give me well-grounded Hopes, that you will exert your greatest Efforts, to vindicate

vindicate the Honour of his Majeſty's Crown, and juſtify his undoubted Rights, againſt the Invaders of his Property.

Gentlemen of the General Aſſembly,

In Obedience to his Majeſty's Commands, I muſt deſire you will grant ſuch Supplies as the Exigency of theſe Affairs may require, by enabling me to raiſe and ſend ſuch Force to the Aſſiſtance of our Neighbours, as will leave them no Room to doubt of your Readineſs, to take Part in every Expence neceſſary for the publick Utility.

I am commanded by his Majeſty, forthwith to ſend two complete Companies of the Troops poſted here, into the Province of *Virginia*; and ſhall do it with all poſſible Diſpatch, after you have provided for the Expence of their Tranſportation, and ſubſiſting them with Proviſions for the Time they may be employed on the intended Service; which I earneſtly recommend to you to do without Delay.

The *Six Nations of Indians* are juſtly alarmed at the Encroachments of the *French*; and unleſs the Colonies unite in Meaſures for building Forts in their Country, for their Security, and the Safety of the Women and Children when the Men are abroad, and for ſending Smiths, and other proper Perſons to reſide among them, I am apprehenſive, we ſhall loſe the litt'e Influence we ſtill have over them. This is a Matter that well deſerves your ſerious Attention, as upon it depends the greateſt Security we have for the Fidelity of thoſe People: And although it be reaſonable, that the Expence be borne by the Colonies in general; yet, as thoſe Nations more immediately depend upon the Province of *New-York*, any Scheme for their Safety and Protection, will naturally be expected to take its Riſe here: 'Twill therefore be ſhewing your Regard for the Welfare of this and all the Colonies, by declaring your Willingneſs in a publick Reſolution, to bear a Proportion of the Charge of erecting and maintaining ſuch Forts. I have already the Sentiments of ſeveral of his Majeſty's Governors on this Point; and am led, from the common Danger, to hope for the Aſſiſtance of ſeveral of the neighbouring Colonies, in a Meaſure of ſo general Concern.

And while you have this Matter under Conſideration, I muſt recommend to you, that of the open and defenceleſs Condition of our Northern Frontier; and that you will enable me to build ſome Fort or Forts, in a proper Situation, till I have uſed my Endeavours to bring his Majeſty's other Governments concerned in the Defence of that Part of the Country, to contribute to the Charge of erecting as many Forts on this Quarter, as may be neceſſary to guard them and us, from the Incurſions of the Enemy in Time of War.

You are well convinced of the Importance of the Trading-Houſe at *Oſwego*; and therefore I need uſe no Arguments to prevail with you, to grant a ſufficient Sum to put that Fortreſs into thorough Repair. It appears

the

the more neceſſary at this Time, as the *French* in their Way to the *Ohio*, paſs that Poſt; and ſhould they ſuſpect it to be unprovided for a Defence, we have no Reaſon, from their late Proceedings, to doubt they would make an Attempt upon it. I therefore think it highly expedient, to order a double Garriſon thither of his Majeſty's Troops, and wait only for your making ſuitable Proviſion for it.

COPSEY-Battery in this City, you are ſenſible, is in a ruinous Condition; and I am perſuaded, you will think it abſolutely neceſſary to put it into good Repair.

I HAVE appointed the Fourteenth of *June* next, for the Interview with the *Six Nations* at *Albany*; and as the Time now draws near, you will provide for Preſents to be diſtributed among them at this Meeting, and for the Expence of my Voyage thither.

Gentlemen of the Council, and General Aſſembly,

THE Matters I have recommended to your Conſideration, are of ſo great Importance, as do not permit me to divert your Attention, by laying any Thing elſe before you at preſent: I ſhall therefore only recommend, that you will give them that due Weight and Diſpatch they ſeem to demand of you. And I make no doubt, but the Reſult of your Deliberations will reflect Honour on yourſelves, and be a Benefit to your Country. You may be aſſured of my hearty and chearful Concurrence in every Meaſure calculated for his Majeſty's Service, and the Happineſs of the People of this Province.

JAMES DE LANCEY.

Fort-George, New-York,
9th April, 1754.

TO

The Honourable JAMES DE LANCEY, *Esq;*
His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New-York, *and the Territories depending thereon in* America.

The Humble ADDRESS of His Majesty's Council of the Province of *NEW-YORK.*

May it please your HONOUR,

WE His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Council of the Province of *New-York*, return your Honour our hearty Thanks for your Speech at the opening of the Session.

WE are truly sensible of the great Importance of the several Matters recommended to us, and are disposed heartily to join in concerting the most proper and prudent Measures to be taken thereupon. And as it is our Interest, as well as our Duty, we shall use our utmost Endeavours to enable your Honour to put in Execution his Majesty's Commands relating thereto; and also to pursue and carry on your well grounded Scheme and good Intentions, for securing the Fidelity of the *Six Nations of Indians*, and for the Protection and Safety of our Frontiers, and those of the neighbouring Colonies.

THE great Pains and Trouble your Honour has already taken, and we are confident, will take about these Affairs, must reflect Honour on your Administration: And as we have the strongest Assurance of your hearty and chearful Disposition, to concur in every Measure calculated for his Majesty's Service, and the Happiness of the People of this Province; so we beg Leave to assure your Honour, we shall do every Thing in our Power to assist therein, and make your Government easy.

By Order of the Council,

COUNCIL-CHAMBER,
City of *New-York*,
11th *April*, 1754.

JAMES ALEXANDER, *Speaker.*

To which his Honour was pleased to return the following ANSWER.

GENTLEMEN,

I Thank you for this Address. I have no other Views than his Majesty's Service, and the Happiness of the People under my Government. I am glad any Steps I have taken, meet with your Approbation, and shall always be obliged to you, for your Advice and Assistance.

JAMES DE LANCEY.

Fort-George, New-York,
11*th* April, 1754.

New York

Lieut. Gov.r De Lancey's Speech to the Council & Genl. Assembly of New York, y.e 9.th of April 1754, with y.e Address of y.e Council of that Province to y.e Lieu.t Governor, and his Answer.

Rec.d with his Letter bo y.e Board dated 22.d April 1754.

Rec.d June y.e 1.st } 1754.
Read — 12 }

Kk. 2.

(6)

To the Honourable
James De Lancey Esq: His Majesty's
Lieutenant Governor and Commander
in Chief in and over the Province of
New York and the Territories depending
thereon in America.

The Humble Answer of the General Assembly of the
said Province.

May it please your Honour

We His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal
Subjects the General Assembly of the Colony of New York return
your Honour our thanks for your Speech.

The several matters recommended by your Honour are
certainly of the utmost importance to all His Majesty's Subjects
on the Continent, and ought to be attended a common concern,
as all must naturally be in some degree or other affected by
the consequences resulting from them.

It is evident from the proceedings of the French, that
their views are to surround all his Majesty's Colonies and by that
means to have it in their power to engage all the Indians Nations
in their Interest: an event sadly to be dreaded by every Colony,
as each must sooner or later feel the sad effects to be apprehended
from it, The vigour and resolution therefore of the Government of
Virginia is highly to be applauded, and their efforts ought by all
means to be assisted and seconded, by every Colony whose
Circumstances will admit of it, and we sincerely wish that ours
were such as could afford them an Assistance equal to our
Inclinations; but Your Honour is very sensible of the vast
Expence this Colony was put to during the late War, in forwarding
the Expedition intended against Canada and defending its
Frontiers, in every Quarter exposed to the Incursions and
Ravages of a merciless Enemy: a great part of which expence
remains still a debt upon us: nor has our Northern Border
yet recovered the Waste and desolation it then suffered.

We

the Emitting any Paper Currency or Bills of Credit exceeding the amount of eighty thousand pounds, to be sunk by Taxes within the narrow compass of about eight Years, which are not yet expired, besides many Thousands raised by other means, and consequently the People of this Colony still groan under the Weight of that heavy Burden.

The Fortifications of this City of New York, the Forts at Albany, Schenectady, Fort Hunter and Oswego We have ever and long respected and repaired as a very great Expence and your Honours Recommendation plainly points out to us the present necessity we lye under of a great additional Expence, to put all those Forts and Fortifications into proper Repair, to double garrison the Fort at Oswego, and to guard against the French Settlement at Crown Point a Settlement of a prospective Town and the Entire Colonys, as have lately built a Fort there, are to the Southern

That we extend to the last Year and expect now a Supply proportionable of a thousand pounds for Presents to the five Nations of Indians, and the Expence of your Honours Voyage to Albany to renew the Security with them, and Power them in the British Interest, which is of the greatest Importance to the Kingdom, and particularly to the Plantation Trade, by the Government of Virginia to intercept the Voyages of the French on the Ohio.

What Considerations, or, rather how unable to contribute that Assistance to the Colony of Virginia, which might be otherwise reasonably expected from us, We shall however very readily make a Provision for Transporting the two Independent Companys his Majesty is pleased to withdraw from us, but we hope their Absence may prove but a Time, as the Reasons from the nature of the Situation from the long Connection with the five Nations of Indians, the old Allies, and from the Security to the Province of the French, seem justly to be looked upon as a Frontier

highly

highly deserving of his most sacred Majesty's care and protection.

We cannot on this occasion omit remarking to your Honour, how wretched is the condition of such of his Majesty's Colonies, as lye nighest to the French, while those which are distant in situation, are calm spectators, as danger appears equally distant. The French King spares neither blood, Treasure, or Treaties, to intimidate and seize our Caribbean Islands, destroy our Commerce, and seize the Royal Dominion; while our new half peopled Inland Colonies, are left by some unhappy fate to struggle for many an dire hearn their bread, which too often becomes their untimely graves. We hope your Honour will make a proper representation of the State of these affairs to our most gracious Sovereign, who has it in his power, and whose interest it is, to relieve us.

We Signers and Success wherever your Honour has appointed upon Examination, have done every thing in our power that may contribute to the Honour of his Majesty, and to the Security and prosperity of his People committed to your care.

By order of the General Assembly.
David Jones Speaker.

Thursday Chamber
the 12 th April 1781.

The Governor's Answer.

Gentlemen.

I thank you for this Address.

I am sensible of the Difficulties the Country labours under during the late War, and the heavy expence the People

people more just to for the Publick services. And I hope the charge which must necessarily accrue, on your proceeding, for the other matters I have recommended to you, will appear in a favourable light to his Majesty, and excuse your not contributing so liberally to the assistance of the Colony of Virginia, on this important Occasion, as his Majesty might have otherwise have justly expected from you.

The Situation of this Colony in respect to the French of Canada, must inevitably expose us to great danger from our neighbours, and augment the Publick Charges which they are to be employed for the defence and safety of the people, will I am persuaded be chearfully borne by them. I shall not fail to make a representation of the state of this Province to our most gracious Sovereign, from whose tender regard to all his subjects, we have good reason to assure ourselves of every happy Effect.

The [illegible] preference in my measures for the Honour of his Majesty, and the security and prosperity of his Subjects under my Government, cannot but be very agreeable to me, and I shall endeavour to evince by my actions, that your Expectations are not ill grounded.

James DeLancey

Fort George in New York
12th April 1754.

Indorsed Recd by

New York,
12th April 1754.

The Assembly's Address
to the Lieut Governor
of New York the 12th
of April 1754. with
his Answer.

Recd with his Letter
to the Board dated the
22d of April 1754

Recd June 4
Read — 12 } 1754

K. k. 3.

Stephen Coffen of full age being duly sworn Deposeth and saith, that he was taken Prisoner by the French and Indians of Canada at Menis, in the year 1747, under the Command of Major Noble, from whence he was brought to an Indian Village called Octayouche about 15 leagues to the Westward of Chebuctia, where he was kept three Weeks prisoner, from thence was carried to a French Settlement called Beaubassin, where the French had a Wooden Fort then garrison'd with twenty five Men, remained there two Months from thence they took him to Gaspey, a considerable Fishing place in the Gulf of St. Lawrence near to the entrance of the River, there are about 300 Families settled there, they kept him there working near four years, then he was brought to a place called Ramouski inhabited by about 25 French Families, from which place he sailed two years to and from Quebec, in a sloop carrying Beaver and Furs Salmon &c.a to Quebec, and in return brought back Brandy Dry Goods &c.a During the time of the Deponents residing at Quebec, he says, it was commonly talked or reported, that they the French intended to settle as many Families as they could to the Westward, to make up for the loss of two of

their

their Towns sunk in the West Indies by an Earthquake. The Deponent further saith, that the Navigation up the River St Lawrence is very dangerous, particularly so at the Isle aux Coudres, and the Isle Orleans, the North side of the former is the best Navigation, the South side being very rapid and Rocky, and the Channel not above 200 yards wide, about 6 fathom water, whereas in the North Channel there is 15 fathom, at the N E end of the latter begins begins two sand banks, which extends a league down said River, the Channel is between both banks, and pretty near the middle of the River, from thence to the Town of Quebec good Naviga tion, being 15 fathom all the way. The Deponent says, there is no possibility of going up said River, without the Tide serves, or a strong N E wind, especially at the two afore mentioned Islands. In September 1752 the Deponent was in Quebec, and endeavouring to agree with some Indians, to convey him to his own Country New England, which the Indians acquainted the governor of, who immediately ordered him to goal, where he lay three Months, at the time of his Releas ment the French were preparing for a

March to Belle Riviere or Ohio, when he offered (9)
his service, but was rejected by the Governor
General Le Bain, He the said General setting out
for Montreal about the 3.d of January 1753, to view
and forward the Forces, the Deponent applyed to
Major Ramsay, for liberty to go with the Army to
Ohio, who told him he would ask the Lieutenant
De Buoy, who agreed to it, upon which he was
Equipped as a Soldier, and sent with a Detachment
of three hundred men to Montreal, under the ____
Command of Mons.r Babeer, who set off immediate,
-ly with said Command, by Land and Ice, for Lake
Erie, they in their way stopt a couple of days to
refresh themselves at Cadanaghqui Fort, also at
Saranto on the North side of Lake Ontario, then at
Niagara Fort 15 days, from thence set off by water
being April, and arrived at Chadakoin on Lake
Erie, where they were ordered to fell timber, and
prepare it for building a Fort there, according to
the Governors Instructions, but Mons.r Morang
coming up with 500 Men and 20. Indians, put
a stop to the Erecting a Fort at that place, by
reason of his not liking the situation, and the
River of Chadakoins being too shallow to carry
any Craft with provisions &c.a to Belle Rivier.
The Deponent says, there arose a warm debate
between mess.rs Babeer and Morang thereon,

the.

the first insisting on Building a Fort there,
agreable to his Instructions, otherwise on
Morangs giving him an Instrument in
writing to satisfy the Governor in that point,
which Morang did, and then ordered Mons.r
Mercier, who was both Commissary and Engineer,
to go along said Lake, and look for a good situa-
tion, which he found; and returned in three days,
it being 15 leagues to the S.W of Chadakoin, they
were then all ordered to repair thither, when they
arrived there were about 20 Indians fishing
in the Lake, who immediately quit it on seeing
the French, they fell to work and built a square
Fort, of Chesnut Loggs squared, and laid over
each other to the height of 15 feet, it is about
120 feet square, a Logg house in each square,
a gate to the Eward, and another to the north
ward, not one port hole cut in any part of it,
when finished they called it Fort La Briske
Isle. The Indians who came from Canada
with them, returned very much out of Temper,
owing as it was said among the army to Morangs Dogged
behaviour and ill usage of them, but they the
Indians said at Oswego, it was owing to the
Frenches misleading of them, by telling them
Falsehoods, which they said they had now
found out, and left them. As soon as the Fort

(4) was

was finished, they marched Southward (2) cutting a Waggon Road through a fine level Country, twenty one Miles to the River O Bass, (1) leaving Capt. Deponteny with a hundred men to garrison the Fort La Bricke Jds.) they fell to work cutting timber boards &c.a for another Fort, while Mr Morang ordered Mons.r Bile with 50 men to go to a place called by the Indians Iganagara here, in the Lake of Belle Rivere, where the River O Bass empties into it: in the mean time Morang had 40 large Boats or Batteaus made to carry down the Baggage and Provisions &c. to said place. Mons.r Bile on coming to said Indian place, was asked what he wanted or intended. He upon answering it was their Father the Governor of Canada's intention to Build a Trading House for their, and all their Brethren's convenience, was told by the Indians that the Lands were theirs, and they would not have them Build upon it. the said Mons.r Bile returning met two Englishmen Traders with their Horses and Goods, whom they bound and brought Prisoners to Morang, who ordered them to Canada in Irons, the said Bile reported to Morang the situation was good, but the water in the River O Bass too low at that time to carry down any craft with Provisions &c. a few days after the Deponent Says, that about 100 Indians called by the French the Loos, came to the Fort La Riviere O Bass, to see what the French were a

(5)

Doing

doing, that Mons.r Morang treated them very kindly, and then asked them to carry down some stores &c.a to the Belle Riviere on Horseback for Payment, which he immidiately advanced them on their undertaking to doit. they set off with full loads, but neber delivered them to the French, which incensed them very much, being not only a loss, but a great disappointment: Morang a Man of a very peevish Choloriek Disposition, meeting with those and other Crosses, and finding the Season of the year too far advanced, to build the third Fort called all his Officers together, and told them that as he had engaged, and firmly promised the Governor to finish the three Forts that season, and not being able to fulfile the same, was both afraid and ashamed to return to Canada, being sensible he had now forfeited the Governour's favour for ever, wherefore rather than live in disgrace, he begged they would take him as he then sat in a Carriage made for him, being very sick some time and seat him in the middle of the Fort, and then set fire to it, and let him perish in the Flames, which was rejected by the Officers, who the Deponent says, had not the least regard for him, as he had behaved very ill to them all in general. The Deponent further saith, that about eight days before he left the Fort La Briske Isle, Chevalier Le Crahe

arrived.

arrived express from Canada, in a Birch Canoe
worked by 10 Men, with orders (as the Deponent
afterwards heard) from the Governor Le Jain, to
make all the preparation possible again the
spring of the year, to build them two forts at
Chadakoin, one of them by Lake Erie, the other
at the end of the carrying place at Lake
Chadakoin, which carrying place is 15. Miles from
one Lake to the other, the said Chevalier brought
for Mons.r Morang, a cross of St Louis, which the
rest of the officers would not allow him to take,
until the Governor was acquainted of his
Conduct and Behaviour; the Chevalier returned
immediately to Canada, after which the Deponent
saith, when the Fort La Riviere o Boeff was finished
(which is Built of Wood stockaded Triangularwise,
and has two Logg Houses in the inside) Mons.r
Morang ordered all the party to return to Canada,
for the winter Season, except three hundred men wch
he kept to Garrison both Forts, and prepare mate-
rials against the spring for the Building other
Forts, he also sent Jean Baer an Officer and
Interpreter, to stay the winter among the Indians
at Ohio, in order to prevail with them, not only
to allow the building Forts on their Lands, but also
persuade them if possible, to join the French
Interest against the English. The Deponent further
saith, that on the 28th of October last, he set off for
Canada under the Command of Cap.t Deman, who

(7) had

22
20
140
760
1200

had the Command of 22 Batteaux, with 20 Men in
each Batteau, the Remainder being 760. Men, follow-
ed in a few days, the 30th arrived at Shedakoin, —
where they staid four days, during which time
Mons.r Peon with 200 Men, cut a Waggon road over
carrying place from Lake Erie to Lake Chadakoin,
being 15 Miles, viewed the situation which proved to
their liking, so set off Novemb.r 3d for Niagara, —
where we arrived the 6.th it is a very poor rotten
old Wooden Fort, with 25 Men in it, they talked of —
rebuilding it next Summer, We left 50 Men here to
Build Batteaux for the Army again the Spring, also
a store House for provisions stores &c.a staid here
two days, then set off for Canada, all hands being
fatigued with Rowing all Night, ordered to halt
a shore to Breakfast within a mile of Oswego
garrison, at which time the Deponent saith, that
he with a Frenchman slipt off, and got to the fort,
where they both were concealed, until the army
passed, from thence he came here. The Deponent
further saith, that besides the 300 men with
which he went up first, under the Command of
Mons.r Babee, and the 500 Men Marang
brought up afterwards, there came at different
times with stores &c.a 900 more, which made
in all 1500 Men, three hundred of which —
remained to garrison the two forts, 50 at
Niagara, the rest all returned to Canada, and
talked of going up again this Winter, so as

to

to be there the beginning of April, they had two six pounders and 7 four pounders, which they intended to have planted in the Fort at Gayagaanah'hare, which was to have been called the Governor's Fort, but as that was not Built, they left the Guns in the Fort La Riviere Oswego, where Morang Commands. Further the Deponent Saith not.

his
Stephen ℔ Coffen
mark

Sworn Before me
this 10. day of January 1754.

Wm Johnson

New york 6th March 1754 A true Copy

P. Denys Dpty

New York

January 15. 1754

Copy of the Examination of Stephen Coffen, touching the Proceedings of the French on the River Ohio, dated ye 10.th of January 175A.

Rec.d with Lieu.t Gov.r Delancey's Letter dated y.e 22.d April 1754.

Rec.d June 9.th
Read — 12 } 1754.

Kk. 4.

Sir. Oswego, March 27th 1754.

Some days ago arrived here an Indian from Calazaqui, who informed us, the day before he left that place arrived there four hundred French in their way to Ohio, and that he understood from them that a few days after two hundred more were to follow by Land, and as soon as the Ice would permit a free Navigation, eight hundred more were to go up by Water to that place: he said upon enquiring the reason of their going up, he was answered, that they understood the English began to be a little too saucy and bold, and talked as if they had a mind to fight, and that they were going to chastise them for their presumption, but desired no Assistance from the Indians, being Men sufficient of themselves for that purpose.

Ten days ago arrived here five French Soldiers, who deserted from Niagara, and confirm the above Report, by saying the above party was dayly expected when they came away, and two Indians who past this Yesterday confirm their safe arrival at the Fort of Niagara.

Kitchen Holland

Newyork April 29th 1754 A true Extract Examd by

Geo Banyar Secry

Oswego: 27th March 1754.

Extract of a Letter from the Officer, with Intelligence of the Force the French propose to send to the Ohio this year. Dated at Oswego ye 27th of March 1754.

Rec^d with Lieu^t Govr De Lancey's Lett^r dated ye 22^d of April 1754.

Rec^d June. y^e } 1754.
Read —

Kk. 5.

New York 21. April 1754.

In my Speech at the opening of the Session I declared my Apprehension that unless the Colonies unite in measures for building Forts in the Indian Country for their security and the safety of their Women and Children when the Men are employed, and for securing Ammunition and other proper Presents to divide among them: We should leave the little Influence we still have over them: And that though it was reasonable the Expence should be borne by the Colonies in general, yet might be settled a scheme for that purpose should take its rise here. I also recommended to the General Assembly that they would enable me to build a Fort or Forts on the Northern parts of their Province, until I had used my endeavours to bring the neighbouring Governments to join in the Expence of erecting as many Forts as might be necessary to guard them and us from the Incursions of the Enemy on that quarter: upon which they came to the inclosed Resolution: And as I doubt not of your Excellency's

His Excellency Gov.r Shirley

agreeing

appearing in opinion that the building Forts in the Indian Country is unnecessary step towards securing them and their Allies in this Important Interest, in which all the Colonies are much concerned; but that the erecting the Forts on the Northern quarter towards the French, is a necessary measure for our common security: You will therefore proceed as your Endeavours to bring your Assembly to join in this expence — We cannot have a more favourable Opportunity to execute a Scheme for this purpose, than at the Present Juncture, when the Commissioners from your Province are met at Albany. I am

Sir

Your Excellency's

most obedient & most humble Servant

James de Lancey

I inclose copy of minute of Council Instruct & petition of Partners of Wiesenbeck

Copy

Sir

Yesterday I arrived safe from Shamokin, and I have given his Honour the Governor an account of my Proceedings there, as to Publick Affairs, and therefore dont think it necessary to repeat that here, as I did not think fit to trouble him with what here follows, at least not in one and the same Letter. I arrived at Shamokin (as I have told the Governor) on the twentieth of April, and found of the Thick Calamys only James Logan at home, almost naked, and after my Inquiry where his Brothers were, he told me they had left the Place, and went up to the Creek called Canasoragy, and I presently perceived that they were not in Amity with one another. I told him with some Gravity and Earnestness that "I came to Shamokin with a Message of Importance from the "Governor of Pennsylvania, and the Proprietors, and I was resolved "to employ them, the Thick Calamys, in the Service of the Government "Jointly, and not at all separately, and if they could agree together and "be of one mind, they might now render themselves useful, and get something "to relieve them from their Poverty, and make themselves esteemed, but "if they would not be of one Mind; and not take heed what I now said to "him, and had to say when they met, I must lay them aside entirely and "not so much as mention their Name again in the Presence of the "Governor of Pennsylvania, that I knew where to apply to upon such "an Occasion, but their former Promise (to be of one Mind and as true "and good Friends as their Father was) gave me yet some Hopes that "they would be advised by me, and agree together, and be of as much "Service as they could." Upon this the lame one, James Logan as he is called, made Answer, and said, that he would send for his Brothers immediately, and desired me that I would say the same to them all, when they should meet, which accordingly I did at their Meeting by a String of Wampum, and I hope it had the Effect wished for.

I engaged them in a Journey to the Cayugers or the Onciders which they should think best, to try to bring about an Indian Purchase for the whole Province, I told them if they did not now stir, Others would bring it about, and they would then be obliged to sit and kill Lice and Fleas, and repent their Backwardness and Folly. I told them what Col. Johnson had said in New York, to wit, that it was out of the Power of any Body to make Indian Purchases without him, and that he would undertake to get Wyomink for the New England People, and the Rest for himself, and Others of his Friends in New York and Albany.

That the Ohio Indians had offered to sell the Lands to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, but the Proprietaries would not accept of it; but perhaps they might if the Six Nations contrary to their

Agreement

Agreement (which I then shewed) should offer to sell to any other People.

(3.) That Andrew Montour had already sold some of the Land on Shermans Creek or Juniata, which the Indians of Ohio gave him, and had settled several Others upon it as his Tenants.

(4.) That the Chiefs of the Six Nations had agreed to sell to their Brother Onas, and to no body else, and I gave them the Copy of the Agreement, and read the Names to them. They desired me to let them have it for their Use with the Six Nations, which I did, and told them to get Coll. Johnson to read it to the Indians as of their own accord.

(5.) That they should promise Shachradodon one hundred Pieces of Spaniards, if he assists and brings about such a Purchase.

(6.) That They themselves should be well paid for their Trouble, and each of them, to wit, John and James, that is the two Eldest to have every Year Ten Pounds a Piece as a Pension.

(7.) That certain Districts shall be reserved for the Indians where they now live, and not included in the Purchase, and hereafter to be bought by the Proprietaries, when the Indians want to sell them. otherwise the Indians to live upon them forever.

There will be need of the last Article because for the only Objection they will make, and as several Indians are coming back from Ohio.

John Shickcalamy and James Logan are very hearty in the thing, and in great earnest about it; they came down with me to Thomas McKees, where I furnished them with Necessaries for their Journey, they will set out by Water in a few Days, with an hired Hand along with them, I left them what Provision I had to spare, they will come back by Albany and be at the Treaty by the 13 or 14 of June precisely.

Hereby I send You the account of my Expences, You will perhaps be surprised at it, but I can assure You I was as frugal as ever I could; I wish to God that the Proprietors were in the Country, I am and so must You be at a Loss what to do, if We should not obtain our End this time, after We did all that We could, there may be room for their Honours to find Fault with Us, they are at a great Distance, and Indian affairs chances so often, and it is my humble Opinion, that this time We ought to go through with it, cost what it will.

I must desire You before I conclude, that You will send me up the Money according to my account by Sammy. I stand in need of it, and I paid it every Farthing of my own Money.

I can think of nothing further; if any thing should have slipped

slipped my Memory, I will communicate it to You by the first Oppor-
=tunity. I am

Sir

Your very humble Servant

Conrad Weiser.

2d May 1754.

Richard Peters Esquire.

2d May 1754.
Copy
Mr Weisers Letter to Mr Peters
relating to his Journey to
Shamokin.

And on the same Day Two Members waited on the Governor and acquainted him, that the House having considered his Message, had thought it proper to shorten the ..... Adjournment mentioned in their Message of Yesternight, and to adjourn to the Sixth of the Month called May next.

And then the House adjourned to the Sixth Day of May next.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday the Seventh of May 1754.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn	William Till	Esquires
Robert Strettell	Benjamin Shewmaker	
Joseph Turner	Richard Peters	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The House last Night acquainted the Governor by Two Members that they were met according to their Adjournment, and were ready to receive any Thing He might have to lay before them.

The several Letters and Papers following were read.

A Letter from Governor Hamilton to Governor Dinwiddie.

Philadelphia 18th April 1754.

Sir

I send this by Express to acquaint You that our Assembly has once more broke up without enabling me to afford You any Assistance either in Men or Money on the present Expedition to Ohio. They had once agreed to vote Money for the Kings Use and to leave the Application of it to me, but afterwards differed about the Quantum, whether it should be Ten Thousand or Five Thousand Pounds. I should at the same time let You know that there was only a Majority of Two, that were for granting any Supplies at all; and they being unable to agree among themselves with respect to the Sum, proposed to adjourn for the present and to meet again on the Sixth of May.

In order that You may not place too great a Reliance on the Assistance You had Reason to expect from this Province, I now think it incumbent on me to acquaint You, that in my Opinion, it is altogether uncertain whether any Thing will be done by our Assembly at their next Meeting that may contribute to the Success of the Expedition. But as I still entertain Hopes of it, I must desire the Favour of your Opinion, upon a Supposition that they give either of the forementioned Sums, in what manner it may be disposed of most to the Advantage of the Service, and to the Scheme formed by You for his Majesties Interest.

After so long a Delay as this Adjournment must occasion, it seems scarce possible that a Body of Men from hence can be raised, armed, victualled and marched through such an Extent of rough Country so as to arrive in time to give You any Assistance in the making a Lodgment, or in the building your Forts; since if the French are really bent on obstructing your Settlement, after having had Notice of your Intentions, they will undoubtedly endeavour to bring a superior Force against You before You can have effected it; and considering the little Assistance You have had from the other Colonies, I am fearful they will be able to prevail. But even taking it for granted that I was able to raise a Number of Men for this Service, yet as it is not possible from the religious Scruples of our Assembly to procure an Act to establish military Discipline How could

the.

the Troops be made serviceable, or kept together longer than themselves thought fit?

Upon these Considerations, I must again request that You will be pleased to think seriously upon this Subject; and inform me how I may be most useful to You, in case the ..... Assembly here should put a Sum of Money into my Hands to be disposed of for his Majesties Service. I must also desire You will please to acquaint me whether your Forces are actually marched towards Ohio and in what Number, what Accounts You have of their Proceedings, or of those of the French, what Assistance You can now depend on from the other Colonies; and in general, whatever shall occur to You as necessary for my Information with respect to this affair, in which You may be assured I will cooperate with You to the Extent of my Power. I am

Sir

Your most obedient

humble Servant

James Hamilton.

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Mr. Washington. received the 3d May.

Honoble Sir

It is with the greatest Concern I acquaint You, that Mr Ward Ensign in Capt. Trent's Company was compelled to surrender his small Fort in the Forks of Mohongialo to the French on the Seventeenth Instant; who fell down from Weningo with a Fleet of Three Hundred and Sixty Battoes and Canoes with upwards of One Thousand Men and Eighteen Pieces of Artillery, which they planted against the Fort, drew up their Men and sent the enclosed Summons to Mr Ward, who having but an inconsiderable Number of Men and no Cannon to make a proper Defence was obliged to surrender; they suffered him to draw off his Men, Arms and Working Tools, and gave Leave that He might retreat to the Inhabitants.

I have heard of your Honours great Zeal for his Majesties Service, and for all our Interests on the present Occasion. You will see by the enclosed Speech of the Half Kings, that the Indians expect some Assistance from You; and I am persuaded You will take proper Notice of their moving Speech and of their unshaken Fidelity.

I thought it more advisable to acquaint Your Honour with it immediately than to wait till You could get Intelligence by Way of Williamsburg and the young Man as the Half King proposes.

I have arrived thus far with a Detachment of one hundred and fifty Men; Col. Fry ..... with the Remainder of the Regiment and Artillery is daily expected. In the meantime We advance slowly across the Mountains making the Roads as We march fit for the Carriage of our Great Guns &c. and are designed to proceed as far as the Mouth of Red Stone Creek which enters Mohongialo about Thirty Seven Miles above the Fort taken by the French, from whence We ..... have a Water Carriage down the River. and there is a Store House built by the Ohio Company which may serve as a Receptacle for our Ammunition and Provisions.

Besides these French that came from Weningo, We have credible Accounts that another Party are coming up Ohio. We also have Intelligence that Six Hundred of the Chippoways and Ottoways are marching down Sciodo Creek to join them. I hope Your Honour will excuse the Freedom I have assumed in acquainting You with these Advices. It was the warm Zeal I ..... owe my Country that influenced me to it, and occasioned this Express. I am with all due Respect and Regard

Your Honours

most obedient and

very humble Servant

G: Washington

a

A Summon, by Order of Contrecaur, Captain of one of the ..... Companies of the Detachment of the French Marine, Commander in Chief of his Most Christian Majesties Troops now on the beautiful River, to the Commander of Those of the King of Great Britain, at the Mouth of the River Mohongialo.

Sir,

Nothing can surprize me more than to see You attempt a Settlement upon the Lands of the King my Master; which obliges me now, Sir, to send You this Gentleman Chevalier Le Mercier, ... Captain of the Bombardiers, Commander of the Artillery of Canada, to know of You Sir, by Vertue of what Authority You are come to fortify Yourself within the Dominions of the King my Master. This action seems so contrary to the last Treaty of Peace concluded at Aix La chapelle, between his Most Christian Majesty and the King of Great Britain, that I do not know to whom to impute such an Usurpation; as it is incontestible that the Lands situated along the beautiful River .... belong to his Most Christian Majesty.

I am informed Sir, that your Undertaking has been concerted by none else than by a Company who have more in View the Advantage of a Trade than to endeavour to keep the Union of Harmony which subsists between the Crowns of France and Great Britain, altho it is as much the Interest, Sir, of your Nation as Ours to preserve it.

Let it be as it will, Sir, if You come into this Place charged with Orders, I summon You in the Name of the King my Master, by Vertue of Orders which I got from my General, to retreat peaceably with your Troops from off the Lands of the King (and not to return; or else I find myself obliged to fulfill my Duty, and compel You to it. I hope Sir, You will not defer an Instant, and that You will not force me to the last Extremity) in that Case Sir, You may be persuaded that I will give Orders that there shall be no Damage done by my Detachment.

I prevent You Sir from the Trouble of asking me one Hour of Delay, nor to wait for my Consent to receive Orders from your Governor; He can give none within the Dominions of the King my Master. Those I have received of my General are my Laws, so that I cannot depart from them.

If on the contrary Sir You have not got Orders, and only come to trade, I am sorry to tell You, that I cannot avoid seizing You, and to confiscate your Effects to the Use of the Indians, our Children, Allies and Friends; as You are not allowed to carry on a contraband Trade. It is for this Reason Sir, that We stopped Two Englishmen, last Year, who were trading upon our Lands; moreover the King my Master asks nothing but his Right, he has not the least Intention to trouble the good Harmony and Friendship which reigns between his Majesty and the King of Great Britain.

The Governor of Canada can give Proof of having done his utmost Endeavours to maintain the perfect Union which reigns between Two Friendly Princes; as he had learned that the Iroquois and Nepissingues of the Lake of the Two Mountains had struck and destroyed an English Family towards Carolina, he has barred up the Road and forced them to give him a little Boy belonging to that Family, which was the only one alive, and which Mr Wlerech a Merchant of Montreal has carried to Boston; and what is more, he has forbid the Savages .... from exercising their accustomed Cruelty upon the English our Friends.

I could complain bitterly Sir of the Means taken all last Winter to instigate the Indians to accept the Hatchet, and to strike Us, while We were striving to maintain the Peace.

I am well persuaded Sir of the polite Manner in which You will receive Monsieur Le Mercier, as well out of Regard to his Business as his Distinction and personal Merit. I expect You will send him back with one of your Officers, who will bring me a precise Answer. as You have got some Indians with You Sir, I join with Monsieur Le Mercier an Interpreter, that he may .... inform them of my Intentions upon that Subject. I am with great Regard

Sir

your most humble and most obedient Servant

Contrecaur

Done at our Camp
April 16. 1754.

a

Pennsylvania. 1754.

April the 18th 1754 From the Fort on Ohio.

A Speech sent from the Half King Scrunyattha* and the Belt of Wampum to the Governor of Virginia and Governor of Pennsylvania.

Brothers the English, the Bearer is to let You know how We were used by the French, We have been waiting this long Time for the French to strike Us, now we see what they design to do with Us, we are ready to strike them now, and wait for your Assistance - be strong and come as soon as possible You can, and You shall find Us your true Brothers, and shall find Us as ready to strike them as You are. We have sent these Two young Men to see when You are ready to come, and then they are to come to Us, and let Us know where You are, that We may come and meet You, and We would desire if You could, that the Men from both Provinces would meet at the Forks of the Road. and now if You do not come to our Relief, We are gone entirely, and shall never meet I believe, which grieves my Heart. - To confirm this to be Truth, here is my Wampum I have sent - Gave a String of Wampum.

The Half King made this Speech to me; now I depend upon You to go with these Two young Men to both Governors yourself, for I have no Dependance on those that are gone so long and have never returned, or sent any Word.

Delivered to me by John Davison an Interpreter.

* The Name of an Indian Chief.

A Letter from Governor Dinwiddie to Governor Hamilton.

Williamsburg Virginia April 27th 1754.

Sir

I received your Honours Letter of the Eighteenth Currant; the Proceedings of ..... your Assembly gives me real Concern; this Expedition to the Ohio is of so interesting a ..... Nature, so warmly recommended by his Majesty, so strongly urged by his Ministry and so evidently calculated for the Welfare of all the Colonies, that I cannot forbear expressing my Desire, that your Honours Attachment to his Majesties Service may be again repeated, and that You may again lay before your Assembly the Necessity of a Supply. Whatever may be their religious Scruples, I think they should consider the first Laws of Nature, Self Preservation, and not to remain inactive, when likely to be invaded by the common Enemy. - Men We could have raised enough, but Money was wanting.

In this great and national Concern, had I met with Assistance equal to the Importance of the Service - Had the Strength of the British Colonies been properly and timely exerted, We must by one brave and vigorous Effort, have entirely defeated all the Machinations of France.

I cannot help observing that Two Proprietary Governments should distinguish ..... themselves on this Exigency of our Affairs in not contributing their Assistance agreable to his Majesties Commands; and more so from your Province, when it is in Doubt if the Land We are going to possess is not in your Grant. If they grant You Money and if You cannot raise some Men, it may be applied for Food, Raiment and other Necessaries for the Soldiery.

The Plan of my Operations is agreable to his Majesties Commands, to take Possession of the Lands on the Ohio in his Name, to build Two Forts. My Orders to the Commander in Chief is to be on the defensive, but if opposed by the Enemy, to desire them to retire;

if

if they should still persist, to repel Force by Force.— If You should raise Men, they may be told to submit to the Rules and Regulations of the other Forces.

Our Forces are all marched to the Number of 350 Men: from North Carolina 300 Men now on their March to join them. I daily expect Two Independant Companies from New-York and one from South Carolina, when collected together will be near 1000 Men. I think your Colony much nigher the Place of action than this, and a much shorter March than those from North Carolina.

It is reported South Carolina Assembly had voted £100,000 their Money, which if so, is near £20,000 this Money; I wrote the Governor as it may be chargeable to transport the Forces hither, I could raise Men, if qualified by a Supply of Money from him.

The last Accounts I have of the French is, that they have about 300 Men at the Fort they built last Year, and that they expected 400 Men from Misisipi up the River Ohio to join them — but the Informations from the Frontiers are not to be depended on; I have often been deceived by them.

And if your Honour, whose Zeal for his Majesties Service is well known, could prevail with your Assembly to grant a Supply for the Purposes before mentioned; it will, I am satisfied, be no less a Pleasure to you than it will be to

Sir

Your most obedient
humble Servant
Robt Dinwiddie.

A Letter from Governor De Lancey to Governor Hamilton.

New York 19th April 1754.

Sir,

Having lately received some Intelligence from the Officer at Oswego, which I thought necessary to forward by Express to Wm Dinwiddie, I could not omit to give your Honour Part in it by the same Conveyance. The Deserters the Officer mentions are since arrived here, who say the French propose sending 3 or 4000 Men this Spring to reinforce their Settlements towards the Ohio, and to build a Stone Fort on that River to the Westward, having prepared Stone for the Purpose. I have also advice from Albany, that the French have built a Fort at Coas, near the head of Connecticut River about 80 or 90 Miles above Fort Drummer.

The Assembly have only voted £1000 for the Ohio Expedition, to be laid out in the Transportation of the Two Independant Companies to Virginia, and subsisting them with Six Months Provisions. They urge as Reasons for their not contributing more liberally to this Service, the Great Expence the Province was put to in the late War, not as yet wholly discharged, and the Necessity they are under of granting a considerable Sum for repairing Oswego and the other advanced Forts, and sending a double Garrison to the former; also the building Forts in the Indian Countries to fix them in their Dependance and others on the Northern Parts of the Province, to guard our Neighbours and Us from the Incursions of the Enemy in time of War.

Their Resolution on the two last mentioned heads I enclose; and as I doubt not of your agreeing in Opinion that the building Forts in the Countries of the Six Nations is an essential Step towards securing them and their Allies in his Majesties Interest, in which all the Colonies are much concerned; You will I am persuaded use your Endeavours to bring your Assembly to join in this necessary Expence. We cannot have a more favourable Opportunity to concert a Scheme for this Purpose than at the Albany Treaty, where I shall probably see Commissioners from most of the Governments: and I hope You will make this a Part of the Commission to the Gentlemen from your Province. I am

Sir
your most obedt & most humble Servant
James De Lancey.

Pennsylvania. 1754.

Extract of a Letter from the Commanding Officer at Oswego.

Oswego March 27th. 1754.

Sir

Some Days ago arrived here an Indian from Cataraqui, who informed us, the Day before he left that Place, arrived there Four Hundred French in their Way to Ohio, and that he understood from them, that a few Days after Two Hundred more were to follow by Land, and as soon as the Ice would permit a free Navigation, Eight Hundred more were to go up by Water to that Place: he said upon enquiring the Reason of their going up, he was answered, that they understand the English began to be a little too saucy and bold, and talked as if they had a mind to fight, and that they were going to chastize them for their Presumption, but desired no Assistance from the Indians, being Men sufficient of themselves for that Purpose.

Ten Days ago arrived here Five French Soldiers, who deserted from Niagara, and confirm the above Report, by saying the above Party was daily expected when they came away, and Two — Indians who passed this Yesterday confirm their safe arrival at the Fort of Niagara.

Hitchen Holland

New York 19th April 1754 a true Extract Examind by
Geo Banyar D Secry.

Resolution of the Assembly of New York.

Assembly Chamber the 17th April 1754.

Resolved that inasmuch as the securing the Five Indian Nations, and those in Alliance with them, in the British Interest, is of the utmost Consequence to all his Majesties Colonies on the Continent; and as they have requested to have Forts Built among them, to secure their — Wives and Children when they go out to War, in behalf of the British Nation; and as the building such Fores, and some Others on the Northern Parts of this Colony, will cover and in a great Measure secure the Settlements of several other of his Majesties Colonies, against the Incursions of the French and their Indians, his Honour the Lieutenant Governor be humbly addressed to use his Endeavours with the neighbouring Governments to join with this Colony in the Expence of erecting and maintaining such Forts; and to assure him that this House will readily come into any well concerted Scheme for that Purpose.

Ordered that Mr. Thomas and Mr. Miller wait on his Honour with the said Address.

By Order of the General Assembly
Abrm. Lott Junr. Cc

New York 20th. April 1754 a true Copy Examd. By
Ge: Banyar Dsecry.

A Letter to the Governor from Conrad Weiser Esquire.

May it please the Governor,

Last night I arrived safe from my Journey to Shamokin and Wyoming, of which I.... think I am obliged by your Honours Orders to lay before You a just and distinct account which is as follows. April the seventeenth I set out from home, and went by the Way of John Harris's and Thomas M'Kee's, being afraid of the two high Mountains, and the bad road that leads from them

them to Shamokin; I arrived at Shamokin the twentieth of April, found that Two of the ..... Shickcalamys being about Thirty miles off on the North West Branch of Sasquehannah, ... commonly called Wachson, I sent a Messenger for them, there being a great Number of Indians at and about Shamokin, I thought fit to send my Son with James Logan the Eldest Son of Shickcalamys with another Indian to Oshohary, Nishkibechon and Woyomock Three Indian Towns on Sasquehannah (North East Branch) with your Honours Message. They set out from Shamokin on the Twenty Second by Water, because there was no Fodder to be had by the Way for Horses. On the twenty sixth they came back again and reported, that they lodged the first night at Oshohary with Sapachpitton, the chief Man, and Sammy interpreted your Honours Message in Mohock to James Logan, and he to Sapachpitton in Delaware. That Sapachpitton was ... well pleased with the Message, thanked them very kindly and gave them the String of Wampum back again which they had given him, and told them that it was best to leave the String at Nishkibechon, where there were more Indians with old Nutimus their Chief. When they arrived at Nishkibechon, old Nutimus was from home, but the Rest of the Indians received the Message very kindly, and said, they would lay it before Nutimus and the Rest of their Indians after they should come home. at Woyamock it was just the same; Paxanosy the Chief Man there was from home also, the Message with another String of Wampum was taken well by those that were at home. It is supposed they will have a Council together when they all come home, which will be at their planting time.

In the mean time that Sammy was gone up to Woyomock, I went up the North West Branch about Twenty Miles to see some Indians, in particular one that came from the Cayuga Country, but missed him; however, John Shickcalamy told me all the News he brought from Cayenhquo which is inserted in the Paper of Indian News herewith sent.

The Indians on Sasquehannah and about Shamokin saw some of the New England Men that came as Spies to Woyomock last Fall, and they saw them making of Draughts of the Land and Rivers, and are much offended about it; they asked me about them, I told them we had heard so much as that, and that We had Intelligence from New England that they came against the Advice of their Superiors as a Parcel of head strong Men and Disturbers of the Peace. They, the Indians, said, they were glad to hear, that neither their Brother Onas nor their own Chief Men had sent them; and they hoped they would not be supported by any English Government in their so doing. The Canticokes are gone up the River to live at Otsenenecky, a Branch of Sasquehannah, where formerly some Onondagors and Shawonese lived.

The Indians in general about Shamokin enquire strongly about what the English are doing against the French on Ohio; they seemed too mightily pleased when I told them that the Government of Virginia had sent Five or Six Hundred Men, and that a great Number would be sent by North Carolina: but they wondered why Pennsylvania would not assist their Brethren; I told them that I hoped they still would, though perhaps not at this Time, they said, perhaps it will be too late then; for the Indians, said they, will not engage before they see the English fight the French courageously with one accord. I have nothing to add, but am

Sir

your very obedient
and humble Servant

Conrad Weiser.

Heidleberg on Berks County
May the 2d. 1754.

News that the Indians told Mr Weiser at Shamokin.

Canadehnia Son of Sahuchsonyout deceased came from Cayuhoe about the middle of April, and brought News that some of the Senecas in their Way to the Southern Indians met with Three Parties of French praying Indians, who came from the inhabited Part of Virginia and had a great many Scalps and four Prisoners, one thereof they knew was a Son of Col

Cresap

Cressap; the Senecas asked them why they did so, they made Answer, that they did it not ... themselves, but their Father Onontio had ordered them so to do, that they did not know where they had been, being lead by a Frenchman, but supposed it was upon James's River, or Patowmack; that they had also Two Indian Scalps which they gave to the Senecas, and told them they might now go home, as these Scalps would answer their End, and the Senecas turned home accordingly.

Item, that a large Belt of Wampum one End black and the other White was sent by the Shawonese and Delawares on Ohio to Onondago, with the following Speech, by the Black Part the Shawonese spoke. "Brethren the United Nations, hear Us; The French your Father's "Hatchet is just over our Heads, and We expect to be struck with it every moment; make "haste therefore and come to our assistance as soon as possible, for if You stay till We are "killed, You wont live much longer afterwards, but if You come soon, we shall be able to "fight and conquer the French our Enemy." The Delawares said by the white Part, "Uncles "the United Nations, We expect to be killed by the French your Father, We desire therefore "that You will take off our Petticoat, that We may fight for Ourselves, our Wives and "Children: in the Condition We are in, You know we can do nothing."

Newmoch an old Delaware Indian from the Big Island came to Shamokin while I was there, and brought the News, that above one hundred Men, Delawares, where by the Way from Ohio to settle upon the Big Island upon Zinachsy River, for Security of their Wives and Children; that as many stayed at Ohio, and are moving towards the Shawonese, that the Shawonese had sent a Message to the Delawares, when they heard of their Intention to move to Zinachsy with a Belt of Wampum, and said, Grand fathers, so they stile the Delawares, "Dont leave me but let Us live and die together; and let our "Bones rest together, let us die in Battle like Men, and fear not the French" that Capt Trent had surprized and taken Six French praying Indians, but that Three of them made their Escape afterwards by Carelessness of their Guard.

Canadahnia also said, that Three Column of French Men passed the Lake ... Ontario towards Ohio, the First Column of Four Hundred, the Second of Three Hundred and the Third of Four Hundred Men, in all Eleven Hundred Men, and it was said that more would come.

And then the Draught of a Message proposed by the Governor to the Assembly was considered and approved; and is as follows.

Gentlemen,

As You are now met to resume the Consideration of the several Matters repeatedly and earnestly recommended to You, in Consequence of his Majesties Commands; in addition to what has been already communicated, I now lay before You the melancholy account which I received on Friday last, by Express from Colo Washington, of the Appearance of a French army of upwards of One Thousand Men, with Eighteen Pieces of Artillery, before the Fort building by the Virginians on the Ohio, near the Mouth of Mohongiala, and of the Surrender thereof on the Seventeenth of last Month to their superior Force.

I thought it necessary after your Adjournment to send an Express to Governor Dinwiddie, in order to be particularly informed, whether the Forces raised in his Government were actually marched towards Ohio, and in what Number, and what Accounts he had of their Proceedings, or of those of the French; — what Assistance he could depend on from the other Colonies, and, in general, whatever should occur to him necessary for my Information, with respect to this Affair; and to acquaint me how I might be the most useful to him: and I have the Satisfaction to communicate to You his Answer.

When

When You take into Consideration those Parts of My Messages which relate to the Treaty at Albany, I must desire You will weigh, with the utmost Attention, the several Matters ..... recommended by Governor De Lancey in his Letter of the Nineteenth of April; and as they are of great Importance to the Interest of his Majesties Colonies in general, and of this in particular, I hope they will have their due Weight with You in your Deliberations and Advice.

The Proposals made by the Governors of Boston and New York, for an Union of the several Colonies in Indian Affairs, is so agreable to my Sentiments, that I earnestly recommend it to your Consideration; and that You will enable me to instruct the Commissioners from this ..... Province to concur with Those from the other Colonies, in case a reasonable Plan shall be offered them for that Purpose. This Method of acting in Concert, and by fair and equitable Quotas .. and Proportions of Expence, will, in the End, be much less chargeable, and greatly more beneficial to our real Interest than the Practice now in Use of making frequent and distinct Presents to the Indians, which have been found by Experience to contribute little or nothing to their real Strength or Security; but on the contrary, has administred Occasions of Debaucheries and Contentions among themselves, which have produced irreconcileable Animosities in Families, and obliged them often to separate from one another, to the great Weakening of our Indian Interest, and Advantage of our powerful and enterprizing Rivals.

Not having of a long Time heard any Thing from the Indians living on the Waters of the Susquehannah, I thought it necessary to send Mr. Weiser to them with a respectful Message, conceived in general Terms, and with a View only to be informed in what Light the Hostilities of the French had been represented to them; and whether any, and what Measures had been proposed to them in Relation thereto.

Mr. Weiser's Journey answered my Purpose, as You will see by his Letters, which he ..... dispatched to me by his Son, as soon as he returned to his own Home.

James Hamilton.

May 7th. 1754.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday the Fourteenth of May 1754.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn,
Robert Strettell, } Esquires
Richard Peters }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Bill was presented to the Governor by Two Members for his Concurrence, Entituled An Act for striking the Sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, and for granting Ten Thousand Pounds thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same; and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of torn and ragged Bills now current in this ..... Province, and was read twice, and some Amendments were proposed to be made to it; the principal of which was, that, as the Bill extended the Excise for Ten Years, in which Time it would raise the Sum of Thirty Five Thousand Pounds, and only proposed to give Ten ..... Thousand Pounds for the King's Use, the Word Ten should be altered to the Word Four - it being thought exceedingly unreasonable to extend the Burthen for so long a Time, when more than the Sum proposed to be given might be raised in the Term of Four Years: and accordingly the Bill with this and some other trifling Amendments was returned to the House.

Memorandum.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the Seventh of May, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn,	William Till,	Esquires.
Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The House last Night acquainted the Governor by Two Members that they were met according to their adjournment, and were ready to receive any Thing He might have to lay before them.

The several Letters and Papers following were read:

A Letter from Governor Hamilton to Governor Dinwiddie.

"PHILADELPHIA, 18th April, 1754.

"Sir:

"I send this by Express to acquaint You that Our Assembly has once more broke up without enabling me to afford You any assistance either in Men or Money on the present Expedition to Ohio. They had once agreed to vote Money for the King's Use and to leave the application of it to me, but afterwards differed about the Quantum, whether it should be Ten Thousand or Five Thousand Pounds. I should at the same time let you know that there was only a Majority of Two that were for granting any Supplies at all; and they being unable to agree among themselves with respect to the Sum, proposed to adjourn for the present and to meet again on the Sixth of May.

"In order that You may not place too great a Reliance on the assistance You had Reason to expect from this Province, I now think it incumbent on me to acquaint You that in my Opinion it is altogether uncertain whether any Thing will be done by our Assembly at their next Meeting that may contribute to the Success of the Expedition. But as I still entertain Hopes of it I must desire the Favour of your opinion, upon a Supposition that they give either of the forementioned Sums, in what manner it may be disposed of most to the advantage of the Service, and to the Scheme formed by You for his Majestie's Interest.

"After so long a Delay as this adjournment must occasion it seems scarce possible that a Body of Men from hence can be raised, armed, victualled, and marched through such an Extent of rough country so as to arrive in time to give you any assistance in the making a Lodgment or in the building your Forts; since if the French are really bent on obstructing your Settlement after having had notice of your Intentions, they will undoubtedly endeavour to

bring a Superior Force against You before You can have effected it; and considering the little assistance you have had from the other Colonies I am fearful they will be able to prevail. But even taking it for granted that I was able to raise a Number of Men for this Service, yet as it is not possible from the religious Scruples of our Assembly to procure an Act to establish military Discipline, How could the Troops be made serviceable or kept together longer than themselves thought fit?

"Upon these Considerations I must again request that You will be pleased to think Seriously upon this Subject and inform me how I may be most useful to You in case the Assembly here should put a Sum of Money into my Hands to be disposed of for his Majestie's Service. I must also desire You will please to acquaint me whether your Forces are actually marched towards Ohio and in what Number, what accounts you have of their Proceedings or of those of the French, what assistance You can now depend on from the other Colonies, and in general whatever shall occur to You as necessary for my Information with respect to this affair, in which You may be assured I will co-operate with You to the Extent of my Power.

"I am, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON."

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Mr. Washington, received the 3d May.

"Hono^{ble} Sir:

"It is with the greatest Concern I acquaint you that Mr. Ward, Ensign in Capt. Trent's Company, was compelled to surrender his small Fort in the Forks of Mohongialo to the French on the seventeenth Instant, who fell down from Weningo with a Fleet of Three Hundred and Sixty Battoes and Canoes, with upwards of One Thousand Men and Eighteen Pieces of Artillery, which they planted against the Fort, drew up their Men and sent the enclosed Sumons to Mr. Ward, who having but an inconsiderable Number of Men and no Cannon to make a proper Defence, was obliged to surrender. They suffered him to draw off his Men, Arms, and Working Tools, and gave Leave that He might retreat to the Inhabitants.

"I have heard of your Honour's great Zeal for his Majestie's Service and for all our Interests on the present occasion. You will See by the enclosed Speech of the Half King's that the Indians expect some assistance from You, and I am persuaded You will take proper Notice of their moving Speech and of their unshaken Fidelity.

"I thought it more adviseable to acquaint your Honour with it immediately than to wait till you could get Intelligence by Way of Williamsburg and the young Man as the Half King proposes.

"I have arrived thus far with a Detachment of one hundred and fifty men. Col. Fry with the Remainder of the Regiment and artillery is daily expected. In the mean time We advance slowly across the Mountains, making the Roads as we march fit for the Carriage of our Great Guns, &c., and are designed to proceed as far as the Mouth of Red Stone Creek, which enters Mohongialo about Thirty-Seven Miles above the Fort taken by the French, from whence we have a Water Carriage down the River, and there is a Store House built by the Ohio Company which may serve as a Recepticle for our Ammunition and Provisions.

"Besides these French that came from Weningo, We have credible Accounts that another Party are coming up Ohio. We also have Intelligence that Six Hundred of the Chippoways and Ottoways are marching down Scioda Creek to join them. I hope Your Honour will excuse the Freedom I have assumed in acquainting You with these advices. It was the warm Zeal I owe my Country that influenced me to it and occasioned this Express. I am with all due Respect and Regard,

"Your Honour's most obedient and very humble Servant,

"G. WASHINGTON."

—

A Summon by order of Contrecœur, Captain of one of the Companies of the Detachment of the French Marine, Commander-in Chief of his Most Christian Majestie's Troops now on the beautiful River, to the Commander of Those of the King of Great Britain at the Mouth of the River Mohongialo.

"Sir:

"Nothing can surprise me more than to see you attempt a Settlement upon the Lands of the King my Master, which obliges me, now, Sir, to send You this Gentleman, Chevalier Le Mercier, Captain of the Bombardiers, Commander of the Artillery of Canada, to know of you, Sir, by Vertue of what Authority You are come to fortify Yourself within the Dominions of the King my Master. This action seems so contrary to the last Treaty of Peace concluded at Aix-la-Chapelle between his Most Christian Majesty and the King of Great Britain, that I do not know to whom to impute such an Usurpation, as it is incontestible that the Lands situated along the beautiful River belong to his Most Christian Majesty.

"I am informed, Sir, that your Undertaking has been concerted by none else than by a Company who have more in View the advantage of a Trade than to endeavour to keep the Union of Harmony which subsists between the Crowns of France and Great Britain, altho' it is as much the Interest, Sir, of your Nation as Our's to preserve it.

"Let it be as it will, Sir, if you come into this Place charged

with Orders, I summon you in the Name of the King my Master, by Vertue of Orders which I got from my General, to retreat peaceably with your Troops from off the Lands of the King (and not to return, or else I find myself obliged to fulfill my Duty and compel You to it. I hope, Sir, You will not defer an Instant, and that You will not force me to the last Extremity); in that case, Sir, You may be persuaded that I will give Orders that there shall be no Damage done by my Detachment.

"I prevent You, Sir, from the Trouble of asking me one Hour of Delay, nor to wait for my consent to receive Orders from your Governor; He can give you none within the Dominions of the King my Master. Those I have received of my General are my laws, so that I cannot depart from them.

"If, on the contrary, Sir, You have not got Orders, and only come to trade, I am sorry to tell you that I cannot avoid seizing You and to confiscate your Effects to the Use of Indians our Children, Allies, and Friends, as You are not allowed to carry on a contraband Trade. It is for this Reason, Sir, that we stopped two Englishmen last year who were trading upon our Lands; moreover, the King my Master asks nothing but his Right, he has not the least Intention to trouble the good Harmony and Friendship which reigns between his Majesty and the King of Great Britain.

"The Governor of Canada can give Proof of having done his utmost Endeavours to maintain the perfect Union which reigns between Two Friendly Princes, as he had learned that the Iroquois and Nepissingues of the Lake of the Two Mountains had struck and destroyed an English Family towards Carolina, he has barred up the Road and forced them to give him a little Boy belonging to that Family, which was the only one alive, and which Mr. Wlerich, a Merchant of Montreal, has carried to Boston; and what is more, he has forbid the Savages from exercising their accustomed Cruelty upon the English our Friends.

"I could complain bitterly, Sir, of the Means taken all last Winter to instigate the Indians to accept the Hatchet and to strike Us while We were striving to maintain the Peace.

"I am well persuaded, Sir, of the polite Manner in which You will receive Monsieur Le Mercier, as well out of Regard to his business as his Distinction and personal Merit. I expect You will send him back with one of your Officers, who will bring me a precise answer. As You have got some Indians with You, Sir, I join with Monsieur Le Mercier an Interpreter, that he may inform them of my Intentions upon that subject.

"I am, with great Regard, Sir,

"Your most humble and most obedient Servant,

"CONTRECŒUR.

"Done at our Camp, April 16th, 1754."

April the 18th, 1754. From the Fort on Ohio.

A Speech sent from the Half King Scruneyattha, and the Belt of Wampum sent to the Governor of Virginia and Governor of Pennsylvania:*

"Brothers the English, the Bearer is to let you know how We were used by the French. We have been waiting this long time for the French to Strike Us, now we see what they design to do with Us; we are ready to strike them now, and wait for your Assistance. Be strong, and come as soon as possible You can, and You shall find Us your true Brothers, and shall find Us as ready to strike them as You are. We have sent these Two young Men to see when You are ready to come, and then they are to come to Us and let Us know where You are that we may come and meet You, and We would desire if you could that the Men from both Provinces would meet at the Forks of the Road. And now, if You do not come to our Relief, We are gone entirely, and shall never meet, I believe, which grieves my Heart. To confirm this to be Truth here is my Wampum I have sent."

Gave a String of Wampum.

The Half King made this speech to me, now I depend upon You to go with these Two young Men to both Governors yourself, for I have no dependance on those that are gone so long and have never returned or sent any Word.

Delivered to me by John Davidson and Interpreter.

—

A Letter from Governor Dinwiddie to Governor Hamilton.

"WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia, April 27th, 1754.

"Sir:

"I received your Honour's Letter of the Eighteenth Currant. The Proceedings of your Assembly gives me real Concern; this Expedition to the Ohio is of so interesting a Nature, so warmly recommended by his Majesty, so strongly urged by his Ministry, and so evidently calculated for the Welfare of all the Colonies, that I cannot forbear expressing my Desire that your Honour's Attachment to his Majestie's Service may be again repeated, and that you may again lay before your Assembly the Necessity of a Supply. Whatever may be their religious Scruples, I think they should consider the first Laws of Nature Self-Preservation, and not to remain inactive when likely to be invaded by the common Enemy. Men We could have raised enough, but Money was wanting.

"In this great and national Concern had I met with assistance

* The Name of an Indian Chief.

equal to the Importance of the Service, Had the Strength of the British Colonies been properly and timely exerted, We must by one brave and vigorous Effort have entirely defeated all the Machinations of France.

"I cannot help observing that Two Proprietary Governments should distinguish themselves on this Exigency of our Affairs, in not contributing their assistance agreeable to his Majestie's Commands, and more so from your Province when it is in Doubt if the Land We are going to possess is not in your Grant. If they grant You Money and if You cannot raise some Men, it may be applied for Food, Raiment, and other Necessaries for the Soldiery.

"The Plan of my Operations is agreeable to his Majestie's Commands to take Possession of the Lands on the Ohio in his Name to build Two Forts. My Orders to the Commander-in-chief is to be on the defensive, but if opposed by the Enemy to desire them to retire; if they should still persist, to repel Force by Force. If You should raise Men they may be told to submit to the Rules and Regulations of the other Forces.

"Our Forces are all marched to the Number of 350 Men; from North Carolina 300 men now on their march to join them. I daily expect Two Independant Companies from New York and one from South Carolina when collected together will be near 1000 Men. I think your Colony much nigher the Place of Action than this, and a much shorter March than those from North Carolina.

"It is reported South Carolina Assembly had voted £100,000 their Money, which if so is near £20,000 this Money. I wrote the Governor as it may be chargeable to transport the Forces hither I could raise Men if qualified by a supply of Money from him.

"The last accounts I have of the French is, that they have about 300 Men at the Fort they built last Year, and that they expected 400 Men from Mississippi up the River Ohio to join them; but the Informations from the Frontiers are not to be depended on; I have often been deceived by them.

"And if your Honour, whose Zeal for his Majestie's Service is well known, could prevail with your Assembly to grant a Supply for the Purposes before-mentioned, it will I am satisfied be no less a Pleasure to You than it will be to,

"Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

"ROB^{T}. DINWIDDIE.

—

A Letter from Governor De Lancey to Governor Hamilton.

"NEW YORK, 19th April, 1754.

"Sir:

"Having lately received some Intelligence from the Officer at

Oswego which I thought necessary to forward by Express to Mr. Dinwiddie, I could not omit to give your Honour Part in it by the same Conveyance. The Deserters the Officer mentions are since arrived here, who say the French propose sending 3 or 4,000 Men this Spring to reinforce their Settlements towards the Ohio, and to build a Stone Fort on that River to the Westward, having prepared Stone for the Purpose. I have also Advice from Albany that the French have built a Fort at Coas, near the head of Connecticut River, about 80 or 90 Miles above Fort Drumer.

"The Assembly have only voted £1000 for the Ohio Expedition, to be laid out in the Transportation of the Two Independant Companies to Virginia, and subsisting them with Six Months' Provisions. They urge as Reasons for their not contributing more liberally to this Service the Great Expence the Province was put to in the late War, not as yet wholly discharged, and the Necessity they are under of granting a considerable sum for repairing Oswego and the other advanced Forts, and sending a double Garrison to the former; also the building Forts in the Indian Countries to fix them in their Dependance, and others on the Northern Parts of the Province to guard our Neighbors and Us from the Incursions of the Enemy in Time of War.

"Their Resolution on the two last-mentioned heads I enclose, and as I doubt not of your agreeing in Opinion that the building Forts in the Countries of the Six Nations is an essential Step towards securing them and their Allies in his Majestie's Interest, in which all the Colonies are much concerned, You will, I am persuaded, use your Endeavours to bring your Assembly to join in this necessary Expence. We cannot have a more favorable opportunity to concert a scheme for this purpose than at the Albany Treaty, where I shall probably see Commissioners from most of the Governments, and I hope You will make this a Part of the Commission to the Gentlemen from your Province. I am,

"Sir, Your most obe^{d} & most humble Servant,

"JAMES DE LANCEY."

—

Extract of a Letter from the Commanding Officer at Oswego.

"OSWEGO, March 27th, 1754.

"Sir:

"Some Days ago arrived here an Indian from Cataraqui, who informed Us the day before he left that Place arrived there Four Hundred French in their Way to Ohio, and that he understood from them that a few Days after Two Hundred more were to follow by Land, and as soon as the Ice would permit a free Navigation Eight Hundred more were to go up by Water to that Place; he said upon

enquiring the Reason of their going up he was answered that they understood the English began to be a little too saucy and bold, and talked as if they had a mind to fight, and that they were going to chastize them for their Presumption, but desired no Assistance from the Indians, being Men sufficient of themselves for that Purpose.

"Ten Days ago arrived here Five French Soldiers who deserted from Niagara, and confirm the above Report by saying the above Party was daily expected when they came away, and Two Indians who passed this Yesterday confirm their safe Arrival at the Fort of Niagara.

"HITCHEN HOLLAND.

"New York, 19th April, 1754.

"A true Extract. Examined by

"GEO. BANYAR, D. Sec'ry."

—

Resolution of the Assembly of New York.

"ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, the 17th April, 1754.

"*Resolved*, That inasmuch as the securing the Five Indian Nations and those in Alliance with them in the British Interest is of the utmost Consequence to all his Majestie's Colonies on the Continent, and as they have requested to have Forts Built among them to secure their Wives and Children when they go out to War in behalf of the British Nation, and as the building such Forts and some Others on the Northern Parts of this Colony will cover and in a great Measure secure the Settlements of several other of his Majestie's Colonies against the Incursions of the French and their Indians, his Honour the Lieutenant Governor be humbly addressed to use his Endeavours with the neighbouring Governments to join with this Colony in the Expence of erecting and maintaining such Forts, and to assure him that this House will readily come into any well-concerted Scheme for that Purpose.

"*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas and Mr. Miller wait on his Honour with the said address.

"By Order of the General Assembly.

ABR$^{M.}$ LOTT, Jun$^{r.}$ Cl.

"New York, 20th April, 1754.

"A true Copy. Examin$^{d.}$ by

"GE$^{O.}$ BANYAR, D. Sec'ry."

—

A Letter to the Governor from Conrad Weiser, Esquire.

"May it please the Governor:

"Last night I arrived safe from my Journey to Shamokin and

Wyomink, of which I think I am obliged by your Honour's Orders to lay before You a just and distinct Account, which is as follows: April the seventeenth I set out from home and went by the way of John Harris' and Thomas McKee's, being afraid of the two high Mountains and the bad road that leads from them to Shamokin. I arrived at Shamokin the twentieth of April, found that Two of the Shick Calamys being about Thirty Miles off on the North West Branch of Sasquehannah, commonly called 2 Machson. I sent a Messenger for them, there being a great Number of Indians at and about Shamokin. I thought fit to send my Son with James Logan, the lame Son of Shick Calamys, with another Indian, to Oskohary, Nishkibeckon, and Woyamock, Three Indian Towns on Sasquehannah (North-East Branch), with your Honour's Message. They set out from Shamokin on the Twenty-Second by Water, because there was no Fodder to be had by the Way for Horses. On the twenty-sixth they came back again and reported that they lodged the first night at Oskohary with Lapackpitton the Chief Man, and Sammy interpreted your Honour's Message in Mohock to James Logan, and he to Lapackpitton in Delaware. That Lapackpitton was well pleased with the Message, thank'd them very kindly, and gave them the String of Wampum back again which they had given him, and told them that it was best to leave the String at Niskibeckon where there were more Indians, with old Nutimus their Chief. When they arrived at Niskibeckon old Nutimus was from home, but the Rest of the Indians received the Message very kindly, and said they would lay it before Nutimus and the Rest of their Indians after they should come home. At Woyamock it was just the same, Paxanosy the Chief Man there was from home also, the Message with another String of Wampum was taken well by those that were at home. It is supposed they will have a Council together when they all come home, which will be at their planting time.

"In the mean time that Sammy was gone up to Woyomock I went up the North-West Branch about Twenty Miles to see some Indians, in particular one that came from the Cayuga Country, but missed him; however, John Shick Calamy told me all the News he brought from Cayinkquo, which is inserted in the Paper of Indian News herewith sent.

"The Indians on Sasquehannah and about Shamokin saw some of the New England Men that came as Spies to Woyomock last Fall; and they saw them making of Draughts of the Land and Rivers, and are much offended about it. They asked me about them—I told them we had heard so much as that, and that we had Intelligence from New England that they came against the Advice of their Superiors as a parcel of head strong men and Disturbers of the Peace. They, the Indians, said they were glad to hear that neither their Brother Onas nor their own Chief Men had sent them, and

they hoped they would not be supported by any English Government in their so doing. The Nanticokes are gone up the River to live at Olsenencky, a Branch of Sasquehannah, where formerly some Onondagors and Shawonese lived.

"The Indians in general about Shamokin enquire strongly about what the English are doing against the French on Ohio; they seemed too mightily pleased when I told them that the Government of Virginia had sent Five or Six Hundred Men and that a great Number would be sent by North Carolina, but they wondered why Pennsylvania would not assist their Brethren; I told them that I hoped they still would, though perhaps not at this time; they said, perhaps it will be too late then, for the Indians said they will not engage before they see the English fight the French couragiously with one accord. I have nothing to add, but am,

"Sir, Your very obedient and humble Servant,

"CONRAD WEISER.

"Heidleberg, in Berks County, May the 2d, 1754."

—

News that the Indians told Mr. Weiser at Shamokin.

Canadehnia, son of Sakuchsonyout, deceased, came from Cayukoe about the middle of April, and brought News that some of the Senecas in their way to the Southern Indians met at Ohio with Three Parties of French praying Indians, who came from the inhabited Part of Virginia and had a great many Scalps and four Prisoners, one thereof they knew was a Son of Col. Cressap; the Senecas asked them why they did so, they made answer that they did it not themselves but their Father Onontio had ordered them so to do—that they did not know where they had been, being led by a Frenchman, but supposed it was upon James' River or Patowmack; that they had also Two Indian Scalps which they gave to the Senecas and told them they might now go home, as these Scalps would answer their End, and the Senecas turned home accordingly.

Item; that a large Belt of Wampum, one End black and the other White, was sent by the Shawonese and Delawares on Ohio to Onondago, with the following Speech, by the black Part the Shawonese spoke: "Brethren the United Nations, hear Us; The French your Father's Hatchet is just over our Heads, and We expect to be struck with it every moment; make haste, therefore, and come to our assistance as soon as possible, for if you stay till we are killed You won't live much longer afterwards, but if you come soon we shall be able to fight and conquer the French our Enemy." The Delawares said by the white Part: "Uncles the

United Nations, We expect to be killed by the French your Father; We desire, therefore, that You will take off our Petticoat that we may fight for ourselves, our Wives and Children; in the Condition We are in You know we can do nothing."

Newmoch, an old Delaware Indian from the Big Island, came to Shamokin while I was there, and brought the News that above one hundred Men, Delawares, where by the Way from Ohio to settle upon the Big Island upon Zinacksy River for Security of their Wives and Children; that as many stayed at Ohio and are moving towards the Shawonese, that the Shawonese had sent a Message to the Delawares when they heard of their Intention to move to Zinachsy with a Belt of Wampum, and said: "Grandfathers," so they stile the Delawares, "Don't leave me, but let Us live and die together and let our Bones rest together, let us die in Battle like Men and fear not the French;" that Capt Trent had surprised and taken Six French praying Indians, but that Three of them made their Escape afterwards by Carelessness of their Guard.

Canadehnia also said that Three Column of French Men passed the Lake Ontario towards Ohio—the First Column of Four Hundred, the Second of Three Hundred, and the Third of Four Hundred Men—in all Eleven Hundred Men, and it was said that more would come.

And then the Draught of a Message proposed by the Governor to the Assembly was considered and approved, and is as follows:

"Gentlemen—

"As You are now met to resume the Consideration of the several Matters repeatedly and earnestly recommended to You in consequence of his Majestie's Commands, in addition to what has been already communicated, I now lay before You the melancholy account which I received on Friday last by Express from Col. Washington of the appearance of a French army of upwards of One Thousand Men, with Eighteen Pieces of Artillery, before the Fort building by the Virginians on the Ohio near the Mouth of Mohongialo, and of the Surrender thereof on the Seventeenth of last Month to their superior Force.

"I thought it necessary after your adjournment to send an Express to Governor Dinwiddie in order to be particularly informed whether the Forces raised in His Government were actually marched towards Ohio and in what Number, and what Accounts he had of their Proceedings or of those of the French, what Assistance he could depend on from the other Colonies, and in general whatever should occur to him necessary for my Information with respect to this Affair, and to acquaint me how I might be the most useful to him, and I have the Satisfaction to communicate to You his Answer.

"When You take into Consideration those Parts of My Messages

which relate to the Treaty at Albany, I must desire You will weigh with the utmost Attention the several Matters recommended by Governor De Lancey in his Letter of the Nineteenth of April, and as they are of great Importance to the Interest of his Majestie's Colonies in general, and of this in particular, I hope they will have their due Weight with you in your Deliberations and advice.

"The Proposals made by the Governors of Boston and New York for an Union of the several Colonies in Indian affairs is so agreeable to my Sentiments that I earnestly recommend it to your Consideration, and that you will enable me to instruct the Commissioners from this Province to concur with Those from the other Colonies in case a reasonable Plan shall be offered them for that Purpose. This Method of acting in Concert and by fair and equitable Quotas and Proportions of Expence will in the End be much less chargeable and greatly more beneficial to our real Interest than the Practice now in Use of making frequent and distinct Presents to the Indians, which have been found by Experience to contribute little or nothing to their real Strength or Security, but on the contrary has administered Occasions of Debaucheries and Contentions among themselves which have produced irreconcileable animosities in Families and obliged them often to seperate from one another to the great Weakening of our Indian Interest and Advantage of our powerful and enterprising Rivals.

"Not having of a long Time heard any Thing from the Indians Living on the Waters of the Sasquehannah, I thought it necessary to send Mr. Weiser to them with a respectful Message, conceived in general Terms, and with a View only to be informed in what Light the Hostilities of the French had been represented to them, and whether any and what Measures had been proposed to them in Relation thereto.

"Mr. Weiser's Journey answered my Purposes as You will see by his Letters which he dispatched to me by his Son as soon as he returned to his own Home.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"May 7th, 1754.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the Fourteenth of May, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn,
Robert Strettell,
Richard Peters,
} Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Bill was presented to the Governor by Two Members for his

this Morning, and desire
The Council humbly advised hear
General Assembly till to Morrow, and to rise
Assembly to provide for the services mention
rejected by the Council in a way not liable to
in the said Representation.

At a Council held at the House of
M.r Willet in the City of New York the 9th
of May 1754.

Present

The Hon.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut.t Governor
M.r Alexander, M.r Holland
M.r Kennedy, M.r Chambers
M.r Murray

Letter from the governor of Pensilvania

His Honour Communicated a Letter of the 1.st Instant from Governor Denwiddie of the 2.d ultimo, in answer to a Letter from his Honour of the 1.st in which he says he hopes the alliance to be made by New England to dislodge the French at Niagara, may induce them to recall some of their Force intended for the Ohio. That he hopes the two Independent Companies from this province, are already imbarked, so that when they arrive their whole force will make neat 1200 Men.

Also a Letter from Governor Morris with Sir Wm Johnson's Letter to him, & papers, which he received by express from the Ohio viz.t

A Letter from Major Washington to Governor Hamilton informing that M.r Wm Ingram in Captain Trents Company, was compelled to surrender his small Fort on the Forks of Monongahela, to the French on the 17.th April, who had in their Company with a Train of 60 Batteaux and Canoes, 18 pieces of 1000 lbs and 18 pieces of Artillery which they opened against the Fort, drove them back, and sent a summons, that they suffered them to draw off their Cannon &c. & return to their Inhabitances.

Speech of the Half Kings of the Delawares

A Speech sent from the half King to the Governor of Virginia and the Governor of Pensilvania Inviting the English to come and assist them against the French, that if they do not come to their help they are gone intirely.

and

[illegible] Warrants.

Council advised his Honour to [illegible]
[illegible] the Governor of Connecticut, that he may [illegible]
[illegible] his Assembly.

The following Warrants on the Treasurer [illegible]
were signed by his Honour the Lieutenant Governor. Viz.

	To the Governor for Indian Presents	£800
05	To the Governor for his Voyage to Albany	150
06	To the Commissioners of Indian affairs for their Disbursements and Expences to the Six Nations of Indians, and for presents to be engaged by them for the publick Service	170
1007	To the Indian Interpreter	50
1008	To the Officer at Oswego, to be given to the Indians who may come to that Fort &c.	25

His Honour laid before the Board the Report of the Committee and Commissioners dated the 4th Instant, and papers referred to them by order of this Board of the 3d of January, and the 29th of last March, which were read and ordered to be filed.

His Honour acquainted the Board, that as [illegible]
the Assembly had passed a Resolve to make good any reasonable expence that may attend the Settlement of Bounds or Lines of Division between this Province and the Provinces of New Jersey and Massachusetts Bay, he proposed to appoint Mr. Colden, Mr. Murray, Mr. Smith, Mr. Benjamin Nicoll and Mr. William Livingston, Commissioners for settling or treating with the Commissioners appointed by the Province of Massachusetts Bay, on the part of the two Provinces. Which the Council approved of, and of the persons named: And thereupon it is referred to the gentlemen of the Council or any three of them, to prepare Draughts of the Commission and Instructions to be given to the said Commissioners, and to report the same to this Board. And [illegible]
his Honour was pleased to inform them that the gentlemen of the Assembly and Commissioners appointed by and on the part of the Province of Connecticut, should meet and prepare every thing relating to this matter, which they may think necessary to be laid before the Commissioners above named.

ght Honble Williamsburg May 10th 1754 Virginia

91

(N) By this Ship I have mov'd Your Lordships, in a small Loop, the Acts that pass'd the Assembly of this Dominion, one Sett in December 1753. & another Set that pass'd in February last; as also the Journals of the Council, & that of the Assembly on their different Meetings, & the List of Shipping.

I beg Leave to observe to Your Lordships, that on the Assembly's meeting in November, agreeable to His Majesty's Commands, I applied to them for a mutual Supply; to enable me to defeat the Designs of the French, on their intended Invasion on His Majesty's Lands on the Ohio, & to support an affectionate Friendship with the Indians; to which they gave not the least Attention, but were Prorogued without any Supply, which proves a great Hurt to His Majesty's Service;

During this Session they made several Resolves of a very extraordinary Nature, not precedented in any of His Majesty's Dominions; & at the Close of that Session they Resolved, That the Attorney General should be paid by the Treasurer £2500 for negotiating their Affair at Home, & this without the Approbation of any other Part of the Legislature. — The Speaker of the House, who is Treasurer, declared, that if the House would make the Resolve, he would pay the Money. I gave them to understand, that the Treasurer should not have my Warrant for the Money, & in course would not be allowed in his Account.

They further Resolved, That the Atto. General should appear Diligent at Home to have their Business for that Service, they of the House of Burgesses engaged to pay him £200 St. P Annum out of His Majesty's Money in the Treasurer's Hands. All these Things are done against the Opinion, and without the Advice of the Council, as myself. — Your Lordships no doubt will observe how Unconstitutional their Proceedings have been, & how they act inconsistent with the Prerogative of the Crown, & contrary to my Instructions.

In the Sessions in Febry last, I again press'd the absolute Necessity of a Supply; I had Influence & Weight sufficient to obtain a Vote for £10,000, & by an Act entitled, for the Encouragement & Protection of the Settlers on the Waters of the Mississippi. They clogged this Bill with many things unconstitutional, & derogatory to the Prerogative —

I went to the Council, & told them, I could not, agreeable to my Instructions, give my Assent to that Bill, for the following Reasons. — Their giving a Power to a

Committee

Committee therein named, to order the Application of the Money
which Number they included four of the Council, contrary to their
that the Bill contains some Clauses of dangerous Consequence; a
tending towards an Alteration of a fundamental Part of the Constit
by taking from the Governor his undoubted right of the Applicatio
Monies raised for the Defence & Security of the Country, to which Re
& Observations the Council unanimously concurr'd.

But as the Necessity of our Affairs required an imm
Supply, to defeat the Designs of the French on our Frontiers, is of
greatest Consequence & required something to be done this Summer
I therefore, with Advice of the Council, gave my Assent to this Bill
the above Reasons I hope to stand excused by Your Lordships.

I determined immediately to dissolve the Assembly; b
their Proceedings are so manifestly Unconstitutional, I suspend
that Step till I heard from Your Lordships, in hopes of an Order to
Dissolve them by Proclamation, which will be shewing much m
Resentment to their Actions.

Enclosed You have the half Years Account of His Maj
Two Shilling & 11th Duty.

Upon the Assembly's refusing a Supply in December
Advice of the Council, I granted a Commission to Capt William
to raise Men, & proceed to the Forks of Monongehela on the River O
there clear the Ground, begin to erect a Fort; & that I should as
as possible, send out some Forces to strengthen & Assist him.
the Grant of £10,000 Sterl. in Money, I commissioned Officers to rai
three hundred Men; they were compleated by the 10th of April; wh
Detachment of 150 Men, under the Command of Col. Washington
began their March, when they were within Seventy five Miles
Fort begun by Capt Trent, his Ensign came & inform'd us acquai
that the French, to the Number of 1000 Men, came down the Ri
Ohio, encamped up to the Fort & summoned them to surrender,
march out with their Guns & Tools, which they were oblig'd to
send down the Provisions & Fort upon Oath, with Copy of the French
Commander's Summons; Which I conceive to be a most egre
Violation of the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns, to
Possession of a Fort begun in His Majesty's Name on his own
undoubted Land. - And

the Indians on the Ohio marched with our People to
called Red Stone Creek (& enclosed You have the Half King's Speech
& my Answer) about Thirty Miles distant from the Fort. I do
not this Insult will be properly represented to the Court of France
I am determined not to remain unactive in our present Situ
the Forces raised here, with 350 raised in North Carolina, wh
Independent Companies His Majesty has ordered, I propose to e
them into a Body at Red Stone Creek, & endeavour to dislodge the
from our Fort. - No other Colony but North Carolina have g
as yet any Supply; but I am now in Hopes they will see the Ne

of raising Forces, which if can make a considerable Number its probable we may turn the Scales upon them.

If our Assembly had granted the small Sum in Nov.r when I first applied for it, I think we might have had the Fort compleated, with a good Garison of Men in it, before the French appeard; but there is Nothing to be done that way without Money, & the People of these Colonies do not pay a dutiful Compliance with His Majesty's Commands, or think properly of their own Safety. However I am determined to do all in my Power to oppose the Designs of the French, which I cannot help calling them now our Common Enemy.

I never underwent more fatigue in my Life, than in directing & forwarding this Expedition, but a misery it has not succeeded to my Wish & Expectations. I shall still look forward in hopes of a change in our favour.

Monday next I proceed to Winchester to meet the Chiefs of the Indians, to deliver His Majesty's Present; but I fear from the above, I shall not have so many as I reasonably might have expected. 1

I have not the Honr of a Letter from Your Lordship of a long time. I am with great Deference & Respect

Right Hon.ble

Your Lordships

most Obed.t Hble Serv.t

Rob.t Dinwiddie

P.S: I have not the least Expectation of further Supply from the Assembly of this Dominion

Will.m Lord Hardwicke &c.

Virginia

Letter from Robert Dinwiddie Esqr
Lieut. Governor & Commander in Chief
of Virginia, to the Board, dated at
Williamsburg ye 10th of May 1754:
transmitting

Recd July ye 2d } 1754.
Read —— do }

N. 158.

6.

97

Hon.ble Sir, 25 Ap.l 1754 Wills Creek

Capt. Trents Ensign Mr. Ward this Day arrived from the Forks of Monongehele, and brings the disagreeable account that the Fort on the 17th Instant was surrendered at the Summons of Captain Contrecœur to a Body of French consisting of upwards of one Thousand Men, who came from Venango with Eighteen Peices of Cannon, Sixty Batteaus and three Hundred Canoes: they gave him liberty to bring off all his men and working Tools, which he accordingly did the same Day.

Immediately upon this Information I called a Council of war to advise on proper measures to be taken in this Exigency; a Copy of whose resolves with the proceedings thereon I do enclose by the Bearer, who I have continued Express to your Honour for more minute Intelligence.

Mr. Ward has the Summony with him and a Speech from the Half King which I also enclose with the Translation: He is accompanied by one of the Indians that is mentioned therein, who went to see where we were, what was our Strength, and to know the time to expect us out: The other Young man I have prevailed upon to return to the Half King with the following Speech.

"Sachems Warriours of the Six united Nations "Shanoahs and Delawares, our Friends and Brethren

"I received by the Bucks Brother* your "Speech who comes to us with the two Young men Give "ness after leaveing you, we return you thanks from "Hearts glowing with affection for your steadfast "adherence to us, for your kind speech, and for your wise "Councils, and directions to the Bucks Brother.

* Mr. Ward

"The young man will inform you who
"he met a small part of our Army advanceing to w
"you, Clearing the Road for a great Number of ou
"warriours that are immediately to follow with
"great Guns, our Ammunition and our Provision
"I could not delay to let you know our H
"and thereupon have sent back one of the young Men
"this Speech to acquaint you with them; while I ha
"sent the other according to your desire to the Gove
"of Virginea with the Buck her Brother, to deliver yo
"speech and Wampum, lyke to be an Eye witness of
"preparations we are making, to come in hast to supp
"you, whose Interest is as dear to us as our Lives, we
"the usage of the treacherous French, and our Conduct
"for they will plainly shew to you how much we have
"at Heart.
"I cannot be easie without seeing yo
"before our Forces met at the Forks of the Road, a
"therefore have the greatest Inclination that you a
"Eskuniate or one of you meet me on the Road as
"was possible to Assist us in Counsil. — To assure you
"the good will we bare you; and to Confirm the Truth
"of what has been said, Here with present you this Str
"of Wampum that you may thereby remember how
"I am your Brother and Friend

To
The Half King
Eskuniate of the Belt of Wampum.

G: Washington
a's
Connotaucarious.

I hope my proceedings in these Affairs w
satisfactory to your Honour, as I have to the utmo
my Knowledge consulted the Interest of the Expedition
good of my Country; whose Rights, while they are
in so just a Cause I will defend to the last remains

Hitherto the difficulty's I have met with in M
has been greater than I expect to encounter on Oth
possible I may be surround'd by the Enemy; and th
Occation'd by those who had they acted as become
every good Subject, would have exerted their utmo

abilety's to forward our just designs. Out of Twenty four
Waggons that were Impress'd at Winchester, we got but
Ten after waiting a week, and some of those so illy pro-
-vided with Teams that we could not travel with them with-
-out the Soldiers assisting them up the Hills: when it was
known they had better Teams at home, I doubt not, but
in some points I may have strained the Law, but I hope as my
sole motive was to expedite the March, I shall be suppor-
-ted in it should my Authority be Questioned which at pre
-sent I doubt not will be, unless some busy body
intermedles.

Your Honour will see by the resolves in
Council that I am disbinded to Monongehile with all the
diligent dispatch in my power. We will endeavour to
make the Road sufficiently good for the heaviest Artillery
to pass and when we arrive at Red Stone Creek, Fortify
our selves as strongly as the short time will allow off.
I doubt not but to maintain a possession there till we are
reinforced (if it seasonably arrives) unless the waters rising
admit their Cannon to be conveyd up in Canoes and then
I flatter my self we shall not be so wanting for Intelli-
-gence but to get timely notice of it and make a good
retreat.

Here your Honour will see the absolute
necessity there is, for having as soon as our Forces are collected a
number of Cannon (some of heavy mettle) with Mortars
Granadoes &c. to attack the French, and put us on an
equal footing with them.

Perhaps it may also be thought adviseable to Invite the Cherokees, Cawtabas, and Chiccasaws, to March to our assistance (as we are informed that Six Hundred Chippoways & Ottaways are Marching down Scioto Creek to join the French that are coming into Ohio). In that case I would beg leave to recommend their being ordered to this place first that a peace may be concluded between them and the Six Nations, for I am informed by several hands that as there is no good harmony subsisting between them that by coming first to Ohio it may create great disorders and turn out much to our disadvantage.

As I had opportunity to the Governo
Maryland and Pensylvania I wrote to both, requ
them with these advices, and inclosed the Summon
Indian Speech, which I hope your Honour will no
me too forward in doing: I consider'd that the Ass
of Maryland was to sit in five Days time and the
-sylvanian Assembly now sitting and that by giveing
timely notice something might be done which wo
turn to the advantage of this Expedition which no
requires all the Force we can Muster.

By the last Information I can get I
doubt whether any of the Indians will be in to
in May.

I am with all due respect and regard

Your Honours most Obed.t &
Very Humble Servt.

G.o Washington

A true Copy N. Wolthoe Cl. Com.

Query
whether the Indian
women and Children if they
will Hear me ingst us are to be
maintained at our expence
or not they will expect it.

Col.o Washington's Let.r to the
Gov.r Wills Creek, 25.th April 1754.

Copy
Col.o Washington's Letter
to y.e Lieu.t Governor, Dated at
Wills Creek, 25.th April 1754.

Rec.d with the Lieutenant
Governor's Letter Dated y.e
10.th of May 1754.

Rec.d July 2.d
Read — 4.th 1754.

W. 161

9.

April 18th 1751 From the Fort on Ohio

99

A Speech from the Half King, & the Belt of Wampum to the Governor of Virginia & Governor of Pensylvania

Brothers the English

The Beaver is to let You know how we were used by the French - We have been waiting this long Time for the French to strike us, now we see what they design to do with us, we are ready to strike them now & wait for Your Assistance be Strong & come as soon as possibly You can, & You shall find us, & true Brothers, & shall find us as ready to strike them as You are.

We have sent these two young Men to see when You are ready to come, & then they are to come to us. & let us know where You are, that we may come & meet You; & we would desire if You could, that the Men from both Provinces may meet at the South of the Road. - And now if You do not come to our Relief we are gone entirely, & shall never meet I believe which grieves my Heart.

To confirm this to be Truth, here is my Wampum I have sent

Gave a String of Wampum

The Half King made this Speech to me

Now I depend upon You to go with these two Young Men to both Governors Yourself, for I have no Dependence on those that is gone so long & has never returned or sent to my Word.

Delivered to me by John Davison Interpreter

NB. * By the Belt of Wampum is meant an Indian Chief

The Half King's Speech to the Lieu.t Governor the 18.th of April 1754.

Rec.d with his Letter dated y.e 10.th of May 1754.

The Half King's Speech to the Lieu.t Governor the 18.th of April.y.e 1754.

Rec.d July y.e 2.d
Read — D.o } 1754.

W. 162.

The Governor of Virginia to the Half King and Seneneyatha Brothers

Copy p. 100

The French having Struck Part of Your Hunting Ground on the River Ohio without Your Leave or Approbation, gives me much Concern, but their Design is, to endeavour to take all Your Lands from You, & dispose of them as Nation as they shall hereafter think proper

I grieve at this ill Treatment of our Brethren & Allies; I am sending many Forces over in order to dislodge them from our Fort, & support & protect You our Brothers: Therefore desire You to be strong & not fear, Your Forces shall join You, & all the Indians You can gather together, at the Forks of the Road

To confirm the same I send this String of Wampum

I shall be at Wineshester this Month, where I shall be glad to meet the Half King

May 8th 1754

Copy

Virginia

Copy. The Lieut. Governor's
Answer to the Half King's
Speech May ye 8th 1754.

Governor's Answer to
Half King's Speech

Recd with Lt Govr Dinwiddie's
Letter dated 10th May 1754.

Recd July ye 2d
Read — 3d } 1754.

No 163.

10.

Mr. Edward Ward Capt. Trents Ensign deposes and makes Oath to the following Particulars, That the French first Appeared to him at Shannopins Town about two Miles distant from the Fort the 17th. of April last, that they moved down within a small distance from the Fort, Then landed their Canoes, and marched their men in a regular manner a little better than Gun shot of the Fort, That Le Mercier a French Officer sent by Contrecaur the Commandant in Chief of the French Troops came with an Indian Interpreter, called by the Mingoes the Owl, and two Drums, one of which served for Interpeter between Le Mercier and him; Le mercier presently delivered him the summons by the Interpeter, looked at his Watch which was about two, and gave him an Hour to fix his Resolution, telling him he must come to the French Camp with his Determination in writeing. He says that half an Hour of the time allowed him, he spent in Council with the Half King, who advised him to acquaint the French he was no Officer of Rank & invested with powers to an answer their Demands & therefore desired them to wait the arrival of the principal Commander That at the time the Summons was delivered to him, the Half King received a Belt of Wampum much to the same purpose.

That he went accompanied with the Half King Rob. Roberts, a private Soldier, and John Davison as an Indian Interpreter, that the Half King might understand every word he spake at the French Camp, That he there addressed himself to the Chief Commander Contrecaur, and expressed himself agreeably to the above mentioned advice of the Half King, That the French Commander told him he should not wait for an Answer from any other person, and absolutely insisted on his determining what to do that Instant, or he should immediately take Possession of the Fort by Force. That he then observeing the number of the French which he judged to be about a Thousand, and considering his own weakness being but Forty one in all, three of only Thirty three were Soldiers, Surrender'd the Fort; with Liberty obtaind to march off with every thing belonging thereto by Twelve o Clock the next Day. He says that tonight he was Obliged to encamp within 300 yards of the Fort with a Party of the Six Nations who were in Company with him, That the French Commander sent for him to Supper and asked many Questions concerning the English Governments, which he told him he could give no Answer to, being unacquainted with such affairs, That the French Commander desired some of the Carpenters Tools, offering any money for them, to which he answer'd he loved his King and Country too well to part with any of them, And then retired. That next morning he received the Speech from the Half King to the Governour, And proceed'd with all his men towards

Red stone Creek where he arrived in two Days; And from
marched to Wills's Creek, where he met with Colo. Was
and informed him of every Particular which had happ
That Colo. Washington thought fit to send back one of the
to the Half King with a Speech and to Assure him of the Ass
which was marching to him; And by the advice of a Cou
of War dispatch'd him an Express to his Honour with
other Indian and an Interpreter, judging him the mo
proper Person, having been appointed by the Half King
He moreover adds that four days before the French ha
he had an Account of their coming, and saw a Letter
John Davison wrote to Rob.t Callender an Indian Trad
confirm the truth that they were to be down by that ti
That the Day following he sent a Copy of Davison's L
to Capt. Trent who was then at Wills's Creek, and wen
directly himself to his Lieutenant who lived Eight or
miles up Monongahela from the Fort at a place call
Turtle Creek; it was late at night when he got there, a
panied by Robert Roberts, Thomas Davison, Samu
Asdill, and an Indian, and shewd him the Letter,
which he sent a Copy the next Day to his Captain. H
Lieutenant told him he was well Assured the French
be down, but said what can we do in the affair? H
morning after he sent for the Half King, and one of
Chiefs named Serunetta, who advis'd him to build a
Stockade Fort, that then he asked his Lieutenant if
would come down to the Fort, to which he answer'd he
shilling to loose for a Penny he should gain by this C
-mission at that time, And that he had Business whic
could not settle under Six Days with his Partner; That
Thereupon answer'd he would immediately go himself
have the Stockade Fort built, And that he would hold o
to the last Extremity before it should be said that the Eng
had retreated like Cowards before the French Forces appe
and that he knowing the bad consequences of his leavi
as the rest had done would give the Indians a very in
-rent opinion of the English ever after. He further sa
had no Orders from either his Captain, or Lieutenant
to proceed, and had the last Gate of the Stockade Fort s
before the French appeared to him, That he was credibl
-formed by an Englishman who attended the French Co
-dant that they had 300 Wooden Canoes, and 60 Bat
and had four men to each Canoe and Batoe, that th
also Eighteen Peices of Cannon three of which were m

Lounders. That the Half King stormed greatly at the French at the Time they were obliged to march out of the Fort, and told them it was he Ordered that Fort, and laid the first Log of it himself but the French paid no Regard to what he said.

Sworn to by the abovementioned Ward before

The Governour in Council

the 7th May 1754.

102

Teste

N. Walthoe Cl. Con.

Ensign Ward's Deposition
before the Governor & Council
ye 7.th of May 1754.

Rec.^d with his Letter dated
ye 10.th of May 1754.

Rec.^d July 2.^d 1754.
Read —2.^d 1754.

Ensign Ward's Deposition before the Govr & Council ye 7.th of May 1754.

W. 164.

12.

Wednesday 3d March

The Hono.ble James De Lancey.

M.r Alexander	M.r Holland
M.r Kennedy	M.r Chambers
M.r Murray	M.r Smith.

His Honour laid before the Board the following which were read viz.t

from the Govr of Jersey, that the Assembly declined the Expence of sending Comm.rs to the Treaty

A Letter from Governor Belcher of New Jersey of the 3d Instant, acquainting his Honour that he shall lay all the papers accompanying them touching a Dispute about the Boundary Line between the two Provinces before the Council of that Province — That at the last Meeting of his Assembly he recommended to them to provide for the Expence of sending a Commissioner to the Interview at Albany, which they declined, and his Honour might receive their proceedings ordered to be Printed.

Letter from Governor Pownall

A Letter from Governor Pownall of the 1st Instant, acquainting his Honour that the forces of that Government and South Carolina are marched to the Cherokee Nation of Indians, and that he is greatly disappointed in Supplies from the Colonies to the Southward of that Government, and that he has no Letters but expected the Companies from Ireland would have come provided with all Necessaries for a March.

Letter from the Govr of New Hampshire with the Draft of a Bill that he proposes should be passed there

A Letter from Governor Wentworth of New Hampshire of the 1st Instant, acquainting his Honour that the Commissioners from that Government should be directed to join with those of the other Governments to be attended with Success respecting the erecting Forts in the Indian Country.

His Honour observed to the Board that as the Council had recommended that it would be for his Majesty's Service the two Independent Companies ordered from hence to Virginia should be sent upon it, as long as Attacks from Indians must be attended with Desertions and diversion next to nothing to the Service. He had wrote to M.r Kennedy who then Commanded his Majesty's Ships stationed here, desiring he would carry those Companies to Virginia, and that M.r Kennedy had answered that he would sail directly on the Instant the two Companies embarked, and the Ship sailed at the first favourable Wind for Virginia where she is yet detained

by

Ships arrived here the 11 Instant
proceed with the Ships immediately to Ca
consider her now upon this station, and the
undertakes to carry the Troops to Virginia it must be upo
sons that evidently shew the necessity of the service, whic
not think were so fully set forth in his Honours Letter to
on this subject.

The Board thereupon humbly offered these
Reasons in support of their former opinion.

That the distance from hence to the Ohio, whether
Companies are appointed to go as appears by the Letters fro
Mr Dinwiddie Governor of Virginia is about four hundre
Miles thro a Country almost wholly uninhabited, and there
fore the Troops could not be supplied with Provisions, were it
practicable for them to March that Distance, which the Council are
well convinced it is not, them being now arrived at most made the
greater part of the way, and were they to March directly to
Virginia as is intended by his Majesty's order they must go much
further than if they proceeded in small Detachments to Ohio, and could
not arrive early enough to be of any service this Season, and the
Difficulty and Fatigue the Men must undergo would in manifestly occasion great Desertions That even these Difficulties
might be surmounted the Council know not how they are to be
provided with Tents and other necessaries for a March, his
Majesty having no such Stores here, it never possible to send
Provisions with them on their March, how this expence should
be defrayed, since the Assembly have not raised any money
for the service, that therefore unless the Troops proceed by water
they cannot this Council conceive be sent at all and any delay
must be highly prejudicial to his Majesty's service at this
Juncture when the French have already taken possession of
on the Ohio and may possibly if not prevented by a sufficient
strength advance even to the Settlements of Virginia, and it
appears by original Letters from the Ohio, that the Indians
there are appointed they should be destroyed by the French,
if not supported soon, a remedy to the necessity of abandoning
the Interest, and going over to the Interest of the French, which
will prove of every fatal consequence.

The

matters to Captain De
ably necessary for his Majesty's
with those Troops on Board the Virginia
bability will retard his Voyage to England

At a Council held at Fort Geor
City of New York the 17th day of May
Present
His Honr James De Lancey Esqr Lieut Govr
The Hono
Mr Alexander
Mr Kennedy
Mr Murray
Mr Holland
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

The Assembly desire
a Barrel of Gun Powder
President of the
Bills Powder being
used.

His Honour was pleased to acquaint the Board, That the Assembly in answer to a Message sent immediately to them to procure Gunpowder for the Use of the Garrison at this Place on the 25th of April last, would make such Provision, by allowing that the Gunpowder which was formerly purchased for his Majesty's Use, which had been taken seized by Mr Kennedy Collector of this Port.— That his Honour is now advised of the intended Detachment of Troops to Oswego, and the Pieces of Ordnance ordered which would be of no use unless Gunpowder were also sent either for which the Reports of the Officers commanding the Detachment suggests there is no Gunpowder left in any of them, and that there is none in his Majesty's Stores. That he has therefore proposed to Mr Kennedy to deliver for the use of the said Garrisons the one half Barrels of the Gunpowder he seized, as the whole quantity is condemned would be for the King, and if not condemned the whole would then be due to his Majesty for the use of the Province, so that in either case he might safely deliver it. Especially on the present Emergency. Which Mr Kennedy had agreed, that the Sum of Three Hundred Pounds were already appropriated by this Assembly for discharging the contingent charges of the Garrison House, which Hundred was more than the Sum of this Powder, if condemned amounted to, Upon which his Honour required the opinion of the Council. The Council declared they knew no Impediment, why for the above Reasons that his Honour should desire Mr Kennedy to deliver the Gunpow-

Mr Kennedy desired to
Deliver what he
the Garrisons.

not

some few of the English Traders on the Ohio escaped, but 'tis supposed the greatest Part are taken, with all their Goods, and Skins, to the Amount of near £20,000. The Indian Chiefs, however, have dispatch'd Messages to Pennsylvania, and Virginia, desiring that the English would not be discouraged, but send out their Warriors to join them, and drive the French out of the Country before they fortify; otherwise the Trade will be lost, and, to their great Grief, an eternal Separation made between the Indians and their Brethren the English. 'Tis farther said, that besides the French that came down from Venango, another Body of near 400, is coming up the Ohio; and that 600 French Indians, of the Chippaways and Ottaways, are coming down Siota River, from the Lake, to join them; and many more French are expected from Canada; the Design being to establish themselves, settle their Indians, and build Forts just on the Back of our Settlements in all our Colonies; from which Forts, as they did from Crown-Point, they may send out their Parties to kill and scalp the Inhabitants, and ruin the Frontier Counties. Accordingly we hear, that the Back Settlers in Virginia, are so terrify'd by the Murdering and Scalping of the Family last Winter, and the Taking of this Fort, that they begin already to abandon their Plantations, and remove to Places of more Safety. ——The Confidence of the French in this Undertaking seems well-grounded on the present disunited State of the British Colonies, and the extreme Difficulty of bringing so many different Governments and Assemblies to agree in any speedy and effectual Measures for our common Defence and Security; while our Enemies have the very great Advantage of being under one Direction, with one Council, and one Purse. Hence, and from the great Distance of Britain, they presume that they may with Impunity violate the most solemn Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns, kill, seize and imprison our Traders, and confiscate their Effects at Pleasure (as they have done for several Years past) murder and scalp our Farmers, with their

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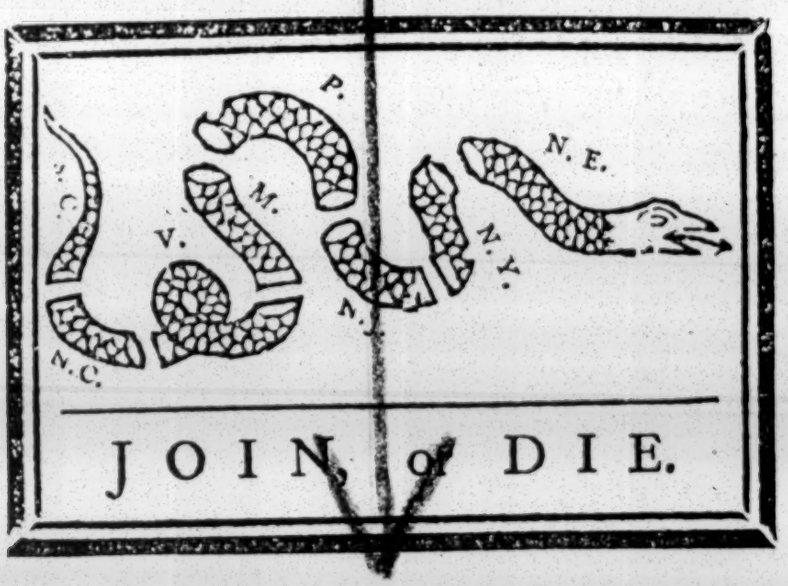
including soldiers, workmen, and travelers, and was forced to yield to the overwhelming French force on April 17. Word of this bloodless defeat reached Governor Hamilton in Philadelphia May 3, so BF and David Hall had five or six days in which to prepare the news account and cartoon for the *Gazette* issue of May 9. Gipson, *British Empire*, IV, 299–310; *Pa. Col. Recs.*, VI, 28–32.

Wives and Children, and take an easy Possession of such Parts of the British Territory as they find most convenient for them; which if they are permitted to do, must end in the Destruction of the British Interest, Trade and Plantations in America.



James Hamilton: Commission to Treat with the Indians

Copy: Public Record Office, London[1]

The Board of Trade in London recognized that the French were trying to seduce the Iroquois from their British alliance and that the colonies, especially New York, were contributing to the danger by violating treaty engagements with the Indians and ignoring their complaints. Hence the Board wrote the governor of New York, Sept. 18, 1753, directing him to meet the Six Nations at a conference "for burying the Hatchet and renewing the Covenant Chain." The letter expressed the desire that the other colonies which had dealings with the Iroquois also send commissioners to the conference and join "in one general Treaty to be made in his Majesty's Name," instead of dealing separately

1. C.O.5:15, pp. 6–8. The minutes of the Albany Congress also include the texts of the commissions from all colonies represented (except New York, whose four attending councilors were not formally commissioned). For the location of the surviving official copies of these minutes see below, p. 343. There are also transcripts of the Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Pennsylvania commissions, each endorsed "A true copy," in Provincial Papers, XII (60), Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

with the Indians as had been a common practice in the past.[2] On the same day the Board of Trade sent a shorter circular letter to the governors of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, and New Jersey, informing them of the instructions to the governor of New York and directing them to recommend to their assemblies the necessary provision for commissioners and for the usual presents to the Indians.[3] James DeLancey, who had succeeded to the acting governorship of New York, wrote to Hamilton, December 11, that he planned to hold the conference at Albany on June 13 or 14.[4] The latter date was subsequently chosen.

Hamilton laid the matter before the Assembly, February 14, and that body sent a grudging reply on the 27th, mentioning the inconvenience of conducting Indian negotiations at Albany but promising to make proper provision for Pennsylvania's representation and for "a small Present" to the Indians.[5] On April 4 the governor sent the Assembly a letter he had solicited from DeLancey on the business the New Yorker thought should be transacted at Albany and asked the representatives' advice on instructions for Pennsylvania commissioners.[6] Aside from the general Indian treaty specified by the Board of Trade, DeLancey's major proposal was that the commissioners "concert measures" for a series of forts in the Indian country, to protect the Iroquois as well as the whites from the common French enemy, and that "some reasonable and equal Plan" should be agreed on for "Expence and Operations." He also expressed the rather vague hope that "from a full and free inquiry at the Treaty into the State of the Colonies, something may be struck out of general Utility necessary to be laid before his Majesty . . . that may contribute to the Safety and Prosperity of the Colonies, and . . . may produce Events beyond our present Expectations."[7] The Pennsylvania Assembly's only response

2. *N.Y. Col. Docs.*, VI, 800–1.
3. *Pa. Col. Recs.*, V, 711–12; *Votes*, 1753–54, p. 16.
4. *Pa. Col. Recs.*, V, 717–18.
5. *Votes*, 1753–54, p. 25.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 45.
7. *Pa. Col. Recs.*, VI, 13–16. Hamilton apparently also sent the House William Shirley's letter of March 4, in which the Massachusetts governor proposed that the forthcoming Albany Congress be used as an opportunity for beginning a union of all the continental English colonies "by jointly agreeing upon such Measures as may most effectually preserve and strengthen our Alliance and Friendship" with the Iroquois. Shirley urged that "the several Commissioners should have sufficient Powers" to do this and also "to settle the Quota of each Government either in Men or Money for carrying what shall be agreed upon into Execution." *Ibid.*, pp. 16–20.

at this time was to ask Hamilton whom he proposed to appoint as commissioners. When he replied naming John Penn and Richard Peters of the Council, Isaac Norris, speaker of the House, and Franklin, the representatives indicated their approval of his choices.[8]

Hamilton reminded the Assembly, May 7, of his request for advice on the instructions for the commissioners and sent down copies of several papers, including those relating to the loss of the unfinished Virginia fort at the forks of the Ohio, a further letter from DeLancey, and a resolution passed by the New York Assembly, April 17, urging that the neighboring governments "join with this Colony in the Expence of erecting and maintaining" the proposed forts in the Indian country. Hamilton earnestly recommended DeLancey's proposals and those of Governor Shirley of Massachusetts "for a Union of the several Colonies in Indian Affairs," and asked for authority to include in his instructions to the commissioners directions to support any "reasonable Plan [that] shall be offered them for that Purpose."[9]

The Assembly referred the messages of April 4 and May 7 with their accompanying papers to a committee of ten, not including Franklin, to prepare a reply. Apparently the draft which the committee reported aroused opposition in the House; it was considered on the afternoon of May 13, again on the morning of the 14th, and the same afternoon, "after a considerable Debate thereupon," the House resolved that it should "be transcribed as it now stands, in order to be sent up to the Governor."[1] There is no record of how the Assembly divided on this vote. The reply to the governor, finally signed on May 18, declared flatly that "no Propositions for an Union of the Colonies, in Indian Affairs, can effectually answer the good Purposes, or be binding, farther than are confirmed by Laws, enacted under the several Governments, comprized in that Union." Not knowing what restrictions the governor might be under in passing their laws and with little hope of help from the Proprietors in meeting Indian expenses, "we are, under these circumstances, at a Loss to advise him on the important Articles he has been pleased to propose to our Consideration."[2]

8. *Votes*, 1753–54, pp. 46, 47, 49, 50. On BF's fellow-commissioners see: Penn, above, IV, 458 n; Peters, above, III, 187 n; Norris, above, III, 90 n.

9. *Votes*, 1753–54, p. 54. The documents forwarded to the Assembly are printed in *Pa. Col. Recs.*, VI, 28–38.

1. *Votes*, 1753–54, pp. 57, 58. Before the transcribed message was signed, the Assembly fulfilled its earlier promise by drawing an order for £500 for a present to the Iroquois and authorizing the commissioners to draw on the provincial treasurer for "their necessary Expences to, at, and from Albany." *Ibid.*, p. 60.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 65.

While this debate was going on, Hamilton signed the commission for the four Pennsylvania delegates, May 13. His hopes of being able to give them in addition written instructions on how they were to proceed at Albany, based on a promise of support from the Assembly, were dashed by the message of the 18th. Consequently this commission, couched in the most general terms and completely silent on all subjects except the negotiations with the Six Nations, was the only authorization the commissioners had for their proceedings at Albany.[3] As was also true of the delegates of most of the other colonies represented at the conference, they were clearly exceeding the powers granted to them by their home authorities when they undertook to prepare a plan of colonial union at the conference.[4]

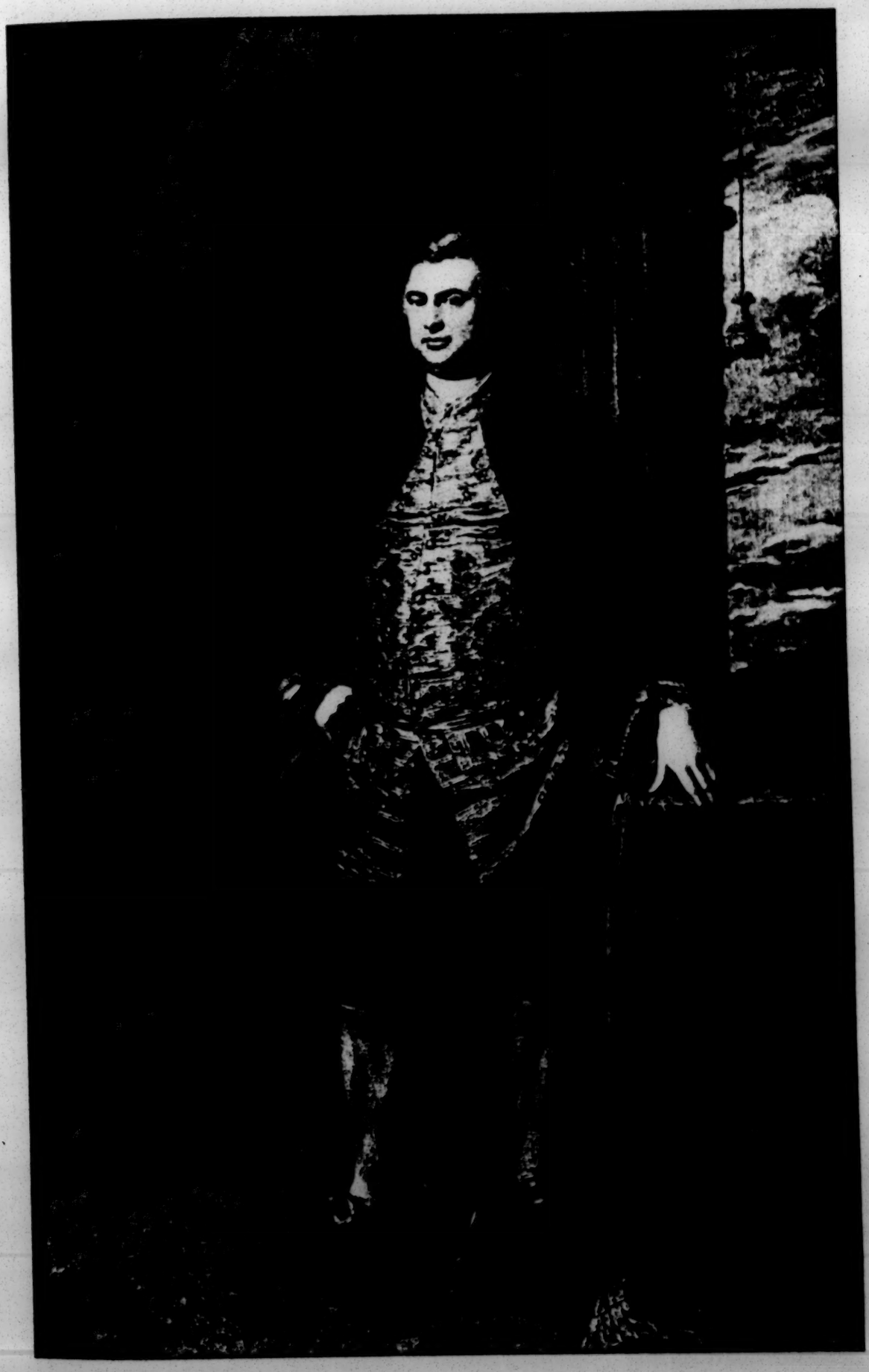
Pensilvania ss. [May 13, 1754]

George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith and so forth, To Our Trusty and Wellbeloved John Penn Richard Peters, Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin of the City of Philadelphia Esqrs. Greeting.

WHEREAS the Honourable James Delancey Esqr. Our Lieutenent Governour and Commander in Chief of Our Province of New York has received Our directions to hold an Interview with Our loving and good Allies the Six United Nations of Indians at the City of Albany within Our said Province for delivering to them Our presents, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and has fixed upon the fourteenth day of June ensuing for

3. Hamilton wrote DeLancey, June 2, a letter sent by the commissioners, explaining why he had given them only a "general Commission" to deal with the Iroquois, but adding his hope that from the discussions at Albany "something of general Utility may be agreed upon, or that a candid Representation of our Condition may be made to his Majesty, and his Interposition implored for our Protection." *Pa. Col. Recs.*, VI, 48–50. He could not have been seriously displeased, therefore, when his commissioners exceeded their written authority at Albany.

4. The specific refusal of the Pennsylvania Assembly on May 18 to sanction even "an Union of the Colonies in Indian Affairs," could be one of the reasons why three weeks later BF's "Short Hints" for a more formal union proposed that the scheme should be sent to England for enactment by Parliament instead of to the assemblies for adoption. A useful account of the Pennsylvania preliminaries to the Albany Congress and of the part played by the Pennsylvania commissioners at the conference is Roger R. Trask, "Pennsylvania and the Albany Congress, 1754," *Pa. Hist.*, XXVII (1960), 273–90.



James Hamilton

this purpose, and it has been Usual when an Interview has been held with these Indians for all his Majesty's Colonies whose Interest and Security is Connected with and depend upon them to join in such Interview, and it appears to Us that the present Disposition of those Indians, and the Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from Our Interest, do make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this time, when the Subjects of the French King have Actually Marched into and Erected Forts and Committed Hostilities within the known limits of Our Dominions. KNOW YE that reposing special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty Abilities and Prudence, We have thought fit to Nominate and Appoint You the said John Penn Richard Peters Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin and every of You Our Commissioners on behalf of Our Governour of Our Province of Pensylvania aforesaid in Conjunction with Our Lieutenant Governour of New York, and with the Commissioners of the other Governments to treat with the Six United Nations of Indians at Albany or with their or any or every of their Chiefs or Delegates, and with them to renew, ratify and confirm the Leagues of Amity, subsisting between Us and the said Nations of Indians, and to make them the Presents that have been provided for them by the Governour and Assembly of our said Province of Pensilvania And further to do, Act, transact and finally to Conclude and Agree with the Indians aforesaid, all and every other matter and thing which to you shall appear necessary for the engaging them heartily in Our Interest and for frustrating any Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from it, as fully and amply to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes, as Our Governour of Our Province of Pensilvania aforesaid might or could do, being Personally present Hereby ratifying confirming and holding for firm and effectual whatsoever you the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris and Benja. Franklin, or any of you shall lawfully do in and about the Premises. IN TESTIMONY whereof We have caused the Great Seal of Our said Province to be hereunto Affixed. Witness James Hamilton Esqr. (by virtue of a Commission from Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esqrs. true and Absolute Proprietaries of the said Province, and with Our Royal Approbation) Lieutenant Governour and Commander in Chief of the Province aforesaid and Counties of New Castle Kent and

Sussex upon Delaware, at Philadelphia the thirteenth day of May, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty four, And in the twenty seventh year of Our Reign.

JAMES HAMILTON

A true Copy, Ex. RICHARD PETERS
IS. NORRIS
B. FRANKLIN.

Pennsylvania Assembly: Reply to the Governor

Printed in *Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives*, 1753-1754 (Philadelphia, 1754), p. 59.

The Pennsylvania Assembly had adjourned twice, on March 9 and again on April 13, without taking action to assist Virginia in the defense of the upper Ohio Valley against the French advance (see above, pp. 229 n, 258). The day after the Assembly met again on May 6, Governor Hamilton informed them of the surrender of the Virginia fort at the forks of the Ohio on April 17 (see above, p. 273) and laid before them the papers concerning this and other developments of the crisis. Thereupon the representatives again took up their proposed measure for an issue of bills of credit and a grant of money for the King's use. Once more a series of votes was taken on how much to appropriate. A grant of £20,000 was defeated 8 to 24; then £15,000 lost by 10 to 22; but £10,000 squeaked through by a bare majority of 17 to 15. Franklin voted in the affirmative each time. The bill as finally passed by the House, May 10, provided for an issue of £20,000 in bills of credit, £10,000 of the total for the King's use and the rest to replace torn and ragged bills of former issues still current.[5] To provide a sinking fund, which the governor had insisted on earlier, the bill extended the Excise Act for a term of ten years.

Hamilton returned the bill with proposed amendments on May 15; the most important of these would reduce the extension of the Excise Act to four years on the grounds that there would be no need for a longer extension "or for burdening the People unnecessarily with a Tax that possibly may not be wanted." The House unanimously rejected this proposed amendment and appointed a committee of ten, including Franklin, to prepare a reply, which was read, adopted, and signed the same day.[6]

5. *Votes*, 1753–54, pp. 53–6.
6. *Ibid.*, pp. 58–9.

This paper led to a vigorous controversy. The governor insisted on the right to exercise his judgment on money bills, being "invested with one Half of the Legislative Powers" of the province, and he refused to be bound by any actions of his predecessors. The Assembly adopted a long series of resolutions, declaring among other things "That the Right of Judging and Determining, not only of the Sum necessary to be raised for any publick Service, but of the Time and Manner of raising it, and Term for paying it, is solely in the Representatives of the People; and that the Governors of this Province have not, nor ever had, nor can have, any Right to interfere therein, under Pretence of rectifying Mistakes, easing the People, or any other Pretence whatever." Neither disputant was willing to give way on this constitutional issue, and the Assembly adjourned for three months, May 18, without making any appropriation for the emergency.[7]

May it please the GOVERNOR, [May 15, 1754]

The House are not inclined to enter into any Dispute with the Governor on the Subject of his proposed Amendments to the Money-Bill; as the Representatives of the People have an undoubted Right to judge, and determine, not only of the Sum to be raised for the Use of the Crown, but of the Manner of raising it.

The Governor, in his Message of the Nineteenth of February, was pleased to tell us, "That if the House should be of Opinion that there will be a Necessity to strike a farther Sum in Bills of Credit, to defray the Charges of raising Supplies for his Majesty's Service in this Time of imminent Danger, and would create a proper Fund or Funds, for sinking the same in a few Years, he would concur with us in passing a Law for that Purpose, thinking himself sufficiently warranted so to do in Cases of real Emergency."[8]

On this Assurance the House have prepared a Bill, and presented it to the Governor, to strike the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds, to give the same to the King's Use, and to sink it by an Extension of the Excise Act for a farther Term of ten Years. The Governor will be pleased to consider, that his Predecessor, to whom the mentioned Instruction was given, did afterwards pass an Act of the same Kind, extending the Excise Act ten Years (now

7. *Ibid.*, pp. 60–6.
8. See above, p. 195 n.

George Croghan to Governor, 1754.

May ye 14th, 1754.

May itt Plese y^r^ Honour,

This Day I Received a Letter from M^r^. Peters, by y^r^ Honours Command, Desiring I may give y^r^ honour my Sentiments in what maner y^e^ £100 which y^r^ honour has to^o^ be aded to ye Goods in my hands for ye Shannas, Should be Disposed of, in Answer, I must Inform y^r^ honour, that by an Indian who Came hear two Days ago from Ohio, with a Mesidge from ye half king to Andrew Montour and My Self, Desiring we may Imeadetly meet him and ye Chieffs of ye Ohio Indians on Monohongela, to know what ye English Intends to Do; ye half king has sent me word that ye Shannas are in a Desprett Condition for want of amonisions, and if nott Imeadettly taken Notice of and Suply^d^ by ye English, he thinks they must comply with the French Meshers, therefore itt is my opinion that the £100 Should be sent Imeadettly to parshess goods there, and that ye whole Should be delivered to ye half king, for him to Deliver itt to ye Shannas, with a Speech from y^r^ honour, as Andrew Montour and Myself Setts of in two Days, I have Sent this Speshell Messinger to Acquaint y^r^ honour of ye Situation ye Indians are in and by whatt I Can Learn from this Indian the whole of ye Ohio Indians Does Nott No what to think, they Imagine by this Government Doing Nothing towards ye Expedition that ye Virginians and ye French Intend to Divide ye Land of Ohio between them, and if they should putt that Construction on ye Delays of this Government, itt will Certainly be of ill Consequence to the English in gineral, and itt is my opinion without the hasty Concurrence of this Government that the Indians will Suspectt ye Virginians as only atacking ye French, on Account of Setling ye Lands ye Government may have what opinion they will of ye Ohio Indians, and think they are oblig^d^ to Do what ye Onondago Counsel will bid them, Butt I ashure y^r^ honour they will actt for themselves att this time without Consulting ye Onondago Councel. This Messinger is to follow Andrew Montour and me to Monohongala, and if y^r^ honour Dose Nott think proper to Send a Messinger to purchess ye goods for ye Shannas, if you Send the £100 by ye bearor to Androw Montour, and then we will purchess them and Deliver ye whole to ye half king to be Delivered to ye Shannas, if Nott I must Deliver what is in my hands to ye same Indians that had the Last present, for I Can by no means bring them back, as ye half king knows they are there for that purposs. I asshure y^r^ honour Androw Montour & My self has a very Different part to act att present, from ye Several Mesidges we have Delivered ye Indians to ashure them of ye asistance of ye English Governments, which I am a fread will Come to leatt, I

have A boutt two hundred pounds worth of Provisions Now half way to Ohio, where they will Stay till I go up. I Can Dispose of them to ye Virginia forsess, Butt if y^r honour Should have ocation of them for ye use of this government, I will Nott Ingage to Virginia, besides I have bought £300 worth more in ye Contrey, y^t flower a' 9 ℔ hundred, which y^r honour may have, only paying me for ye Caridge out.

I am y^r honours most humble
and most obedient Servant,
GEO. CROGHAN.

Indorsed.
14th May. 1754. Geo. Croghan.

— —

Diary of Journey of Com'rs to Albany, 1754.

Begun Monday, the 3^d June, 1754.

June.

M. 3. Dined at Bristol . . . Sup'd at Trentown.

T. 4. Baited at Kingstown, rain'd ye greatest p'rt of the forenon; din'd at Brunswick; Tea at M^rs. Curstegans. Visited A. White. Thunder & Rain.

W. 5. Baited at Woodstick. Din'd at Staten Island Point. Watsons left the Horses there. Cross'd ye Bay in an hour & Quarter; went to Scotch John's, Waited on ye Govr at M^r. Watt's; went to Coffee ho' & tavern at Night. Willets lodged wth Jurs.

T. 6. Peter Livingston, M^r. Norris, M^r. Penn, M^r. Weiser, myself & M^r. Lawling my Lt. D. fix'd on the Lists of Indian Goods. Dined wth ye Govr at Willet's; Govr in Conversation proposed maintaining ye Indians one day at New York, another Pennsylvania, &c. Night at M^r. Walton's.

F. M^r. Tasker, M^r. Barnes & self went to Peter Livingston's; left ye Indian presents for Maryland wth Conrad Weiser. Dined at Phil Livingston's; went to M^r. Wells's Country house, wth M^r. Walton, there we drank Cydar. Sup'd at M^r. Barclay's wth D^r. Johnson; Conversation on Indians. Govr set off at 11 o'clock home.

8. Went to Marlots, dined at M^r. Walton's. Sup'd at Willet's

8. At 7 went on Board Albany Sloop, Egbert Egbert. Wind N. E., made about 4 miles; made upon ye sloop Delancy in Company wth Maryland Sloop. M. Jacks, M^r. Barnes, M^r. Horn, M^r. Ridout.

which relate to the Treaty at Albany, I must desire You will weigh with the utmost Attention the several Matters recommended by Governor De Lancey in his Letter of the Nineteenth of April, and as they are of great Importance to the Interest of his Majestie's Colonies in general, and of this in particular, I hope they will have their due Weight with you in your Deliberations and advice.

"The Proposals made by the Governors of Boston and New York for an Union of the several Colonies in Indian affairs is so agreeable to my Sentiments that I earnestly recommend it to your Consideration, and that you will enable me to instruct the Commissioners from this Province to concur with Those from the other Colonies in case a reasonable Plan shall be offered them for that Purpose. This Method of acting in Concert and by fair and equitable Quotas and Proportions of Expence will in the End be much less chargeable and greatly more beneficial to our real Interest than the Practice now in Use of making frequent and distinct Presents to the Indians, which have been found by Experience to contribute little or nothing to their real Strength or Security, but on the contrary has administered Occasions of Debaucheries and Contentions among themselves which have produced irreconcileable animosities in Families and obliged them often to seperate from one another to the great Weakening of our Indian Interest and Advantage of our powerful and enterprising Rivals.

"Not having of a long Time heard any Thing from the Indians Living on the Waters of the Sasquehannah, I thought it necessary to send Mr. Weiser to them with a respectful Message, conceived in general Terms, and with a View only to be informed in what Light the Hostilities of the French had been represented to them, and whether any and what Measures had been proposed to them in Relation thereto.

"Mr. Weiser's Journey answered my Purposes as You will see by his Letters which he dispatched to me by his Son as soon as he returned to his own Home.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"May 7th, 1754.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the Fourteenth of May, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn,
Robert Strettell,
Richard Peters,
} Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Bill was presented to the Governor by Two Members for his

Concurrence, Entituled "An Act for striking the Sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, and for granting Ten Thousand Pounds thereof to the King's Use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same and for applying the Remainder to the Exchange of torn and Ragged Bills now current in this Province," and was read twice and some Amendments were proposed to be made to it, the principal of which was that as the Bill extended the Excise for Ten Years, in which Time it would raise the Sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Pounds and only proposed to give Ten Thousand Pounds for the King's Use, the Word Ten should be altered to the Word Four, it being thought exceedingly unreasonable to extend the Burthen for so long a Time when more than the Sum proposed to be given might be raised in the Term of Four Years, and accordingly the Bill with this and some other trifling Amendments was returned to the House.

—

MEMORANDUM.

The same Day the House returned the Bill to the Governor with a Message agreeing to the trifling Amendments, but adhering to the principal one and Extension of the Act for Ten Years, and praying he would be pleased to pass the Bill as it then stood for Ten Years; To which the Governor on the Day following sent the House the following written Message:

"Gentlemen:

"Considering the Royal Instruction laid before the Assembly the last Year, it must be apparent that I have, meerly from a Desire to oblige You, consented to raise the Money intended for his Majestie's Use in the Manner by You proposed, and have prolonged the Currency of the Bills of Credit to be issued in Vertue of the Bill now under Consideration as far as I can think consistent with my own Safety.

"And as the Fund to be established upon the Foot of my proposed Amendment will be more than sufficient to repay the Sum granted by the Bill, I can see no Reason for extending the Act of Excise longer than Four Years beyond the Date of its present Limitation, or for Burthening the People unnecessarily with a Tax that possibly may not be wanted, and therefore find no Cause to recede from that Amendment.

"And as for the first, I am of Opinion it is so indispensably necessary that unless some such Provision be made the whole Intent of the Grant to his Majesty may be defeated. But if, on further Consideration, the Method by me proposed shall not be approved by You, it will be very agreeable to me that Commissioners be named in the Bill to act conjunctly with the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, in disposing of the Money.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"May 15th, 1754."

On the same Day the following Message was delivered to the Governor by Two Members, who at the same time acquainted him that this being an inconvenient Season of the Year for the Members to be from their respective Homes, the House desired the Governor would be pleased to let them know his Result on the said Bill as soon as possible:

"May it please the Governor:

"The House are not enclined to enter into any Dispute with the Governor on the Subject of his proposed Amendments to the Money Bill, as the Representatives of the People have an Undoubted Right to judge and determine not only of the Sum to be raised for the Use of the Crown but of the Manner of raising it.

"The Governor in his Message of the Nineteenth of February, was pleased to tell Us 'That if the House should be of Opinion that there will be a Necessity to strike a farther Sum in Bills of Credit to defray the Charges of raising Supplies for his Majestie's Service in this Time of imminent Danger, and would create a proper Fund or Funds for sinking the same in a few Years, He would concur with Us in passing a Law for that Purpose, thinking himself sufficiently warranted so to do in Cases of real Emergency.'

"On this Assurance the House have prepared a Bill and presented it to the Governor to strike the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds, to give the same to the King's Use, and to sink it by an Extension of the Excise Act for a farther Term of Ten Years. The Governor will be pleased to consider that his Predecessor, to whom the mentioned Instruction was given, did afterwards pass an Act of the same Kind extending the Excise Act Ten Years (now near expired) for a Grant of Five Thousand Pounds only, and We never heard that he incurred the Royal Displeasure for so doing. As the Sum We grant is double, We had no Expectation that our proposing the same Term would have been deemed extravagant. The Governor thinks Four Years sufficient; but as the Representatives are best acquainted with the circumstances of the People, and must themselves as a Part of the People bear a Share of all Burthens laid upon them, it seems not reasonable to suppose they will lay such Burthens unnecessarily They now offer Ten Thousand Pounds to the Crown and propose a manner of raising it that they judge most easy and convenient for the People they represent; and if the Governor thinks fit to refuse it meerly from an Opinion that a shorter Term for sinking the Bills would be more easy for the People, We cannot but suppose that since the Messages in which He so warmly recommended this affair to Us, he has on further Advices or better Considerations changed his Sentiments of the Importance of the present Occasion for Supplies, and doth not now think the Danger so imminent or the Emergency so great or so real as he then apprehended it to be.

"We, therefore, beg Leave to acquaint the Governor that if this

Amendment regarding the Term is insisted on, it is needless to consider the other relating to Commissioners, for the Bill cannot pass this House.

"Sign'd by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"In Assembly, 15th May, 1754."

To which the Governor on the Seventeenth returned the following Answer:

"Gentlemen:

"As I am not less unwilling than Yourselves to enter into Disputes of any Kind, I could have been well pleased to have been freed from the Necessity of animadverting upon the Contents of your Message on the Subject of the Bill for granting Money to the King's Use; but as that Message appears to contain a Position derogatory to the Rights of Government, I cannot, consistent with my own Judgment and the Trust reposed in me, suffer it to pass without some observation.

"You are pleased to say that 'the Representatives of the People have an undoubted Right to judge and determine, not only of the Sum to be raised for the Use of the Crown, but of the manner of raising it.' This, Gentlemen, is a Privilege which I neither have or ever shall deny to be inherent in You as an Assembly, while it is only understood to imply that no Money can be levied on the People without your Consent; But if you would infer from it that I have no Right to exercise my Judgment with respect to Money Bills farther than either to approve or reject them as they are offered to me, I must beg Leave to differ from You in my Opinion, both from the Reason of the Thing and the Practice of my Predecessors upon several Occasions.

"The Governors of this Province are invested with one Half of the Legislative Powers, and being equally concerned in Duty with the Assembly to consult the Base, Freedom, and Welfare of the People committed to their Care, must of Course be supposed to have a Right to interfere and rectify any Mistakes they apprehend likely to be committed by the other Branch of the Legislature, as well in Regard to the laying of Taxes as to Matters of any other Kind, unless it can be proved they have renounced their Right thereto by some publick Act, which I do not conceive to have been the Case here; for to what Purpose is a Governor appointed and invested with a Share in the Legislative Authority if he hath no discretionary Power to object to what he thinks Amiss in the Proceedings of an Assembly, and is only to be made Use of as an Instrument to ratify their Transactions, tho' ever so inconsistent with his own Judgment and the Good of the People?

"You must be sensible, Gentlemen, that I have neither objected

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"You must be sensible, Gentlemen, that I have neither objected

to the Sum granted for the Use of the Crown nor to the Manner of raising it as proposed by the Bill under Consideration, tho' I could heartily have wished that the Sum had been larger, and that it had been given more seasonably, as well as that some less exceptionable Method had been fallen on for raising it than by compelling me to depart from the Letter of his Majestie's Instruction, which nothing less than my Concern for the King's Service and the Preservation of the People under my Government in this Time of imminent Danger could have induced me to comply with; on which accounts I hope his Majesty, upon a fair and candid Representation of the Case, will most graciously be pleased to pardon me.

"My principal Objection You well know is only against the Extension of the Fund whereby the Money is proposed to be repaid to an unnecessary Length, by which a Tax is to be laid and continued upon the People without the least apparent Necessity. Can You suppose, if there should be any future Occasion, that a Governor will refuse his assent to a Bill for levying Money for the general Utility of the Province? Or have You in the present Case at all intimated to me any Services for which it is now wanted?

"It is true You have been pleased to make a Grant to his Majesty of Ten Thousand Pounds, which as it was the most that could be obtained I am in hopes will be graciously accepted by him as a Mark of your Duty; and in compliance to my Message of the nineteenth of February I have consented to establish a Fund by which the same will be repaid in the easiest Manner at the End of Six Years and leave a Surplus of several Thousand Pounds in your Hands, to be disposed of as You think fit; but I am sorry to find You are not satisfied with this, and that for the Ten Thousand Pounds now granted to his Majestie's Use You are desirous of obtaining more than three Times that Sum in Return, and urge as a Precedent for my Behaviour what was done by my Predecessor on a like Occasion.

"I have no Desire, Gentlemen, to detract from the Merit of your late Governor, of which I allow him to have had a great deal; he might possibly have Reasons to influence his Conduct, to which I am hitherto a Stranger, yet if one may judge from the Circumstances of his not having communicated them to those who at that Time had the greatest Share of his Confidence, and of his having never transmitted that Act for the Royal Approbation, I am inclined to think they were such as he himself was not very well pleased with. For my own Part, as I never made the Actions of another the Rule of my Conduct farther than I thought them founded in Reason, and as at present I see none for altering my Opinion with regard to the proposed Amendment, I shall not recede from it but upon Condition that You enlarge the Sum given for his Majestie's Use, in which case I will agree to extend the Act in such Manner as to sink it in the same Proportions.

"But it is possible, Gentlemen, that more may be concealed under this Sollicitude for a long Extension of the Excise than You have thought proper to reveal, otherwise I cannot account for your desiring to extend it so much beyond the usual Term, which in this Province never exceeded Five Years till the late Governor thought fit to grant it for Ten, for no good Reason I have ever heard given or believe possible to be given.

"It is well known that by the Laws now in Force the Publick Money is solely in the Disposal of the Assembly, without the Participation of the Governor; nevertheless while these Acts by which Money was raised were of short Duration, the Governor had now and then an Opportunity of obliging the Assembly in a very essential Manner by a Renewal of those Acts, and thereby of making himself acceptable to them, but to extend them to such an unreasonable Length of Time as You now desire might be to render him in a great Measure unnecessary to them during the Continuance of those Acts, but upon Terms very disagreeable to himself as well as injurious to his Constituents. To this Condition, therefore, I will not be the Means of reducing any Successor of mine, and this Circumstance is of no small additional Weight with me to adhere to my Amendment.

"You will please to observe, Gentlemen, that the Question betwixt You and me is not which of Us is best acquainted with the Circumstances of the People, but whether it be reasonable to burden them with a Tax for a long Term of Time without any apparent Necessity. If any such had occurred to You I cannot but think You would have made Mention of it in your Message, but as You have not been pleased to point it out to me, I must of course conclude none such has appeared to You.

"You are exceedingly mistaken, Gentlemen, if You really do suppose me either to have changed my Sentiments with respect to the Importance of the present Occasion for Supplies or that I am less apprehensive of the Dangers to which We are at present exposed from the Invasion of a Foreign Power than when by my several Messages I represented them to You and called upon You for such Supplies as might enable me to resist the Invaders and repel Force by Force. On the contrary, I am fully sensible that the Danger is become more imminent from the certain Account I have received of the Hostilities committed by them and of their having made themselves Masters of a Fortress which was building by Order of the Governor of Virginia on his Majestie's Lands, and of their having driven away the English Garrison. Of this You must likewise be sensible from the accounts I communicated to You, if You do not wilfully oppose the Conviction of your own Senses and shut your Eyes to the great Dangers that threaten the Country of which You are the Representatives, and which by every Tye both human and divine You are bound to cherish and protect, to which End I once

more call upon You pursuant to his Majestie's Orders for such Supplies as the present Emergency of Affairs requires.

"Upon the whole, Gentlemen, I have already gone farther in my Condescensions to please You than I am warranted to do by the King's Instruction, unless You will make an addition to the Sum mentioned in the Bill, and have at my own Risque extended the Currency of the Money to be issued on this occasion for a year longer than the utmost Term allowed to the Eastern Governments by the late Act of Parliament.

"I well know the State of your publick Funds, and that the Loan Office itself were the Money duly collected is able to furnish a much larger Sum than You have thought fit to grant to his Majesty upon this important Occasion, independant of the Interest hereafter to accrue, which, together with the Excise, make up a Revenue of more than Six Thousand Pounds a Year. This Money belongs to the People, and had You thought fit might have been employed for the Service recommended to You without laying any additional Tax upon them before it became necessary. I have, nevertheless, consented to gratify You in extending the Excise for such Time as is more than sufficient to repay the Sum granted to his Majesty without breaking in upon either of your present Funds or the outstanding Interest of the Loan Office, which I cannot estimate together with the broken Interest at less than Twelve Thousand Pounds. If, then, considering the favourable State of your Finances You shall decline to do what his Majesty so justly expects from you, merely on account of my refusing wholly to disregard his Majestie's Instruction, which would justly subject me to his highest Displeasure, and to join with You in laying a Tax upon the People without its appearing to me to be in the least necessary, I think I may more justly impute to You a wanton Disregard of his Majestie's Commands and of the Security and Protection of your Constituents than You can insinuate of me a Lukewarmness with Regard to his Majestie's Service, of which I have the greatest Detestation, and from which I hoped my Conduct thro' this whole affair might have exempted me.

"Let me, therefore, Gentlemen, recommend to your serious attention a Review of your Conduct upon the present Occasion, and if You shall find that You have been too precipitate in the Resolution contained in your Message, let me entreat You to rectify it before it be too late, for as I must be obliged soon to lay this whole Transaction before his Majesty, it would give me the greatest Pleasure that both You and I might receive his gracious Approbation of our Services; But if contrary to my Hopes You should still persist in refusing to accept of my Amendment, and the Bill should by that Means be lost, I cannot but apprehend some unhappy Consequences to the Province from your extraordinary Behaviour.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"17th May, 1754."

Pennsylvania, 1757.

At a Conference with the Indians held in the Court House at Lancaster, On Tuesday the 17th May 1757.

Present

The Honourable William Denny Esq: Lieut: Governor
The Council, The Committee of the Assembly,
Colonel John Stanwix
The Magistrates of the Borough, with a Number of other Gentlemen.
The same Indians.

William Parsons, Interpreter for the Crown. } Little Abraham Onoprehon or the Indian.
Conrad Weiser, Esq: Interpreter for the Province } Thomas Hickey

After the Minutes of the Treaty were read, and the Indians acquainted by the Interpreter, what had been doing, the Governor spoke as follows

"Brethren, of the United Nations,

"I desire to be informed if you have any Complaints "against this Province, with regard to purchases of Land, or for any other Cause "whatsoever: In Expectation that you would freely open your Hearts to Me, on "these Heads, I give you this Belt.

"Gave a Belt of Wampum".

Mr. Croghan then acquainted the Indians by the Interpreter, that he was going to speak to them in Behalfe of the Hon.ble Sir William Johnson, Baronet, his Majesty's sole Agent and Superintendent of the affairs of the Six Nations, and their Allies and Dependents, and desired to consider his Words, as if spoken by Sir William.

"Sachems & Warriors, of the United Nations our Friends & Brethren,

"When Teedyuscung, at the Treaty held at Easton, complained that "the Indians had been defrauded of some of their Lands, this Government agreed "to meet him upon his own Appointment this Spring, to which Meeting you "were invited that you might see and hear every thing to be then transacted by "your Nephews the Delawares and Brothers the Shawonese. You are now "here on that Invitation, and are Witnesses how ready this Government is to "redress any Injuries or Injustice done to the Indians, whenever they can "make that appear, and that they, your Brethren of Pennsylvania, are "now attending for that Purpose, and you must be convinced from their "Conduct towards you, that they are not come empty handed.

"Brethren, "Gave a Belt of Wampum.

"His Majesty's Subjects that have settled this and the Neighbouring Provinces, by Law are not allowed to buy any of your Lands, and accordingly they have never done it, and if those who only have a Right from "the Crown to purchase your Lands have done you any Injustice, or injured "the Indians on this Account, the Governor of this Province, with a Number of the Chief Men of this Government are here, and appear heartily and willing to make Satisfaction; but if they, or the People of those Provinces, should refuse doing you Justice, when you make it appear that you are injured, I will

"will then carefully represent your Case to the King of England, my Master, and yr.
"Father, in order to procure you an ample and immediate Satisfaction".

"Gave a Belt of Wampum".

"Brethren,

"As Deputies from most of the Tribes of the Six Nations are now here, who may not be present when Sedyuscung comes down, and as I am ordered and required by the Honourable Sir William Johnson Baronet, His Majesty's Chief Agent and Superintendant of the Affairs of the Affair of the Six Nations, their Allies and Dependants, to enquire into and hear the Complaints made by the Indians, and if justly grounced, to use my utmost Endeavours to get them redressed. I do insist upon it, that you open your Hearts to me without Reserve, and inform me of every thing you know concerning the Grounds complained of by Sedyuscung, or any other Injuries or Injualtie done to you, or any of the Tribes of the Six Nations, or other Indians in alliance with His Majesty King George, by this or the Neighbouring Colonies, that I may be thereby enabled to represent the true State of your Grievances to His Majesty.

"Brethren,

"After this candid Conduct towards you, and my thus proposing you to open your Minds to me, I do expect that you will hide Nothing from me, but speak from the Bottom of your Hearts: And I expect that you will recommend it to your Nephews the Delawares, & Brothers the Shawanese, to come down and give your Brother Onas a Meeting, to make their Complaints appear, and have them adjusted, else I shall take it for granted that they have no just Cause of Complaint: To inforce what I have said, I give you this Belt of Wampum.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

"Brethren, of the united Nations,

"You remember that your Nephews the Delawares, & Brothers the Shawanese, in a Council with you at Otsaningo, promised to lay down their Hatchet, and in a subsequent Meeting with Sir William Johnson at his House, in July last, ratified and confirmed it in the most solemn Manner in your Presence; then promising to deliver up all the English Prisoners that were by any Means brought to their Country, or in their Possession; And I desire that on your Return to your Country, you will remind your Nephews & Brothers of their Promises to Sir William Johnson, and recommend it strongly to them to bring down what English Prisoners they have amongst them, and deliver them up, as that is the only Proof they can give us of their Sincerity and good Disposition towards us.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

"Sachems & Warriors, of the united Nations,

"In that Meeting with your Brothers Nanaighheagaes, Your Nephews the Delawares, and Brothers the Shawanese, renewed and brightened the Chain of Friendship between them and us, and promised to fix their Eyes on you their Uncles, and regulate their Conduct by yours; And at the same time declared, in a public Manner, by dancing, and singing the War Song, that they would turn the Edge of their Hatchet, in Conjunction with You their Uncles the Six Nations, against the French, the treacherous, and faithless Invaders of the Property of Mankind. And I must now desire that you will insist upon their being ready, when called upon, to join His Majesty's Troops, in Conjunction with you, Our Friends and Allies, against our common Enemy.

"That this Speech may have its full Force upon your Minds, I present you with this Belt of Wampum.

"Gave a War Belt of Wampum.

Little

Pennsylvania 1757.

Tittle Abraham then spoke as follows,

"Brothers,

"The Speeches you have just made are of great Consequence both to you and us. We shall duly consider them; and, as soon as possibly we can, we will return you an Answer".

May the 18th 1757.

This day Four Persons, that were killed on the Frontiers, in the Settlement of Cumberland, by the Enemy Indians, were brought to this Town.

In the Afternoon the Chief Sachems, with a Number of their Warriors, called a Meeting in the Indian Camp, and spoke to us as follows,

"Brethren,

"We have called this Meeting with Tears in our Eyes, on "Account of seeing so many of our Brethren killed by the evil Spirit; And we "take this Opportunity, as we have a good deal of Business yet to do, to wipe "the Tears from your Eyes, so that Tomorrow, when we meet in Council, we may "see each other with the same good-Will we have hitherto done!

Gave a String of Wampum.

"Brethren,

"Now we have wiped the Tears from your Eyes, agreable to "the antient Custom of our Forefathers, we clean the Blood off your Council seat, "that you may sit with Comfort, and hear what we have to say to you.

"We doubt not the French King, who takes Delight in Mischief, "has taken this Opportunity to send his Children down to commit these Murders, "with Expectation of bredding a Difference between you our Brethren and us; "but we desire you will hold fast by the Chain of Friendship subsisting between "Us, and disappoint him in his Designs".

Gave a Belt of Wampum".

At a Conference held with the Indians, in the Court House at Lancaster on Thursday the 19th May 1757.

Present

The Honourable William Denny Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Colonel John Armstrong.

The Council.

The Committee of the Assembly.

The Magistrates of the Borough, with a great Number of other Gentlemen.

The same Indians.

William Parsons, Interpreter for the Crown } Tittle Abraham, } Speakers
Conrad Weiser Esq. Interp. for the Province } Thomas King. } for the Indians.

After reading over the Condolance Speeches, made Yesterday by the Indians, on Account of our People that were killed by the Enemy, Tittle Abraham, addressing himself to the Hon.ble Sir William Johnson Baronet, and the Governor, spoke as follows,

"Brethren,

more call upon You pursuant to his Majestie's Orders for such Supplies as the present Emergency of Affairs requires.

"Upon the whole, Gentlemen, I have already gone farther in my Condescensions to please You than I am warranted to do by the King's Instruction, unless You will make an addition to the Sum mentioned in the Bill, and have at my own Risque extended the Currency of the Money to be issued on this occasion for a year longer than the utmost Term allowed to the Eastern Governments by the late Act of Parliament.

"I well know the State of your publick Funds, and that the Loan Office itself were the Money duly collected is able to furnish a much larger Sum than You have thought fit to grant to his Majesty upon this important Occasion, independant of the Interest hereafter to accrue, which, together with the Excise, make up a Revenue of more than Six Thousand Pounds a Year. This Money belongs to the People, and had You thought fit might have been employed for the Service recommended to You without laying any additional Tax upon them before it became necessary. I have, nevertheless, consented to gratify You in extending the Excise for such Time as is more than sufficient to repay the Sum granted to his Majesty without breaking in upon either of your present Funds or the outstanding Interest of the Loan Office, which I cannot estimate together with the broken Interest at less than Twelve Thousand Pounds. If, then, considering the favourable State of your Finances You shall decline to do what his Majesty so justly expects from you, merely on account of my refusing wholly to disregard his Majestie's Instruction, which would justly subject me to his highest Displeasure, and to join with You in laying a Tax upon the People without its appearing to me to be in the least necessary, I think I may more justly impute to You a wanton Disregard of his Majestie's Commands and of the Security and Protection of your Constituents than You can insinuate of me a Lukewarmness with Regard to his Majestie's Service, of which I have the greatest Detestation, and from which I hoped my Conduct thro' this whole affair might have exempted me.

"Let me, therefore, Gentlemen, recommend to your serious attention a Review of your Conduct upon the present Occasion, and if You shall find that You have been too precipitate in the Resolution contained in your Message, let me entreat You to rectify it before it be too late, for as I must be obliged soon to lay this whole Transaction before his Majesty, it would give me the greatest Pleasure that both You and I might receive his gracious Approbation of our Services; But if contrary to my Hopes You should still persist in refusing to accept of my Amendment, and the Bill should by that Means be lost, I cannot but apprehend some unhappy Consequences to the Province from your extraordinary Behaviour.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"17th May, 1754."

The following Message was delivered to the Governor on the eighteenth Day of May by Two Members, who acquainted him "that the House on seeing no Prospect of being farther useful to the Publick in the present Sitting, and their private Affairs in this busy Season of the Year requiring their Attendance at their respective Homes, were entlined to adjourn to the nineteenth Day of August." To which his Honour said "He had no Objection; but desired that the Gentlemen would acquaint the House that as some Parts of the Minutes of Assembly of this Season might be necessary to be mentioned in the Representation the Governor found himself obliged to make to his Majesty, in Answer to his Royal Order relating to the Invasion of his Dominions by the French and their Indian allies, he desired the House would direct a Copy thereof to be delivered to him, or permit a Person to be by him appointed to take the same from their Journal as soon as conveniently might be."

"May it please the Governor:

"We have deliberately considered the Governor's several Messages, together with the Letters He has been pleased to lay before Us, relating to the ensuing Treaty to be held at Albany, in which We thankfully observe the Care He has taken to 'obtain the best Intelligence he was able of what was proposed to be transacted at that Treaty for the general Benefit and Advantage of these Colonies, and of every other Thing relating thereto which he conceived necessary for our Information;' And as he has been pleased to request our Sentiments on the Instructions to be given the Gentlemen Commissioners on the Part of this Province, 'to which he will pay the greatest Regard,' We can do no less than return him our grateful Acknowledgements for his Condescension and Justice, and would chearfully comply therewith at this Time, but when we consider that no Propositions for an Union of the Colonies in Indian Affairs can effectually answer the good Purposes, or be binding farther than they are confirmed by Laws enacted under the several Governments comprized in that Union, that We know not what Restrictions the Governor may lie under in passing our Acts, and that we have very little Reason to depend upon any Assistance in our Indian Expences where by a former Assembly it has been respectfully addressed for, and where we think in Justice We have a Right to expect it. We are, under these Circumstances, at a Loss to advise him on the important articles he has been pleased to propose to our Consideration; nevertheless, as we have already declared our Satisfaction in the Gentlemen the Governor has been pleased to name for this Commission, so We confide in their Abilities and Prudence to answer the Ends proposed in the Letter from the Lords of Trade of the Eighteenth of September last, by renewing at this Interview the Covenant Chain with the Six Nations, and by frustrating, as far as lies in their Power, any Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from

the British Interest, and for this Purpose, in Compliance with the said Letter from the Lords of Trade, we have now granted a Present to be made to those Indians on our Behalf, however inconvenient We may judge it to hold our Treaties at Albany on other occasions.

"Sign'd by order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"In Assembly, 18th May, 1754."

Mr. Calender arrived in Town from Ohio the same Day, and delivered to the Secretary a Letter from Mr. Montour, which was sent to the House, and is as follows:

"SHEERMAN'S CREEK, 16th May, 1754.

"Sir:

"I once more take upon me the Liberty of informing You that our Indians at Ohio are expecting every Day the armed Forces of this Province to their Assistance against the French, who by their late Encroachments are like to prevent their planting, and thereby render them incapable of Supporting their Families; and You may depend upon it as a certainty that our Indians will not strike the French unless this Province or New York engage with them, and that by sending some Number of Men to their immediate Assistance; the Reasons are plain, to wit, that they don't look upon their late Friendship with Virginia as sufficient to engage them in a War with the French. I therefore think, with Submission, that to preserve our Indian Allies this Province ought instantly to send out some Men, either less or more, which I have good Reason to hope would have the desired Effect; otherwise I doubt there will in a little Time be an entire Separation, the Consequences of which You are best able to judge, &c. I am informed by my Brother, who is lately come from the Lakes, that there is at that Place a great Number of French Indians preparing to come down to the Assistance of the French at Ohio. I am likewise informed by a young Indian Man who by my Brother's Directions spent some Days with the French at Mohongialo that they expect a great Number of French down the River very soon. I have delayed my journey to Ohio, and waited with great Impatience for advices from Philadelphia, but have not yet received any; I am now obliged to go to Col. Washington, who has sent for me many Days ago to go with him to meet the Half King Monacatootha and others, that are coming to meet the Virginia Companies, and as they think some from Pennsylvania, and would have been glad to have known the Designs of this Province in these Matters before I had gone.

"I am, Sir, Your very humble Servant,

"ANDREW MONTOUR.

"RICHARD PETERS, Esquire."

MEMORANDUM.

On the Thirtieth Day of May the Governor sign'd the following Commission for John Penn, Richard Peters, Benjamin Franklin, and Isaac Norris, Esquires, to hold a Treaty with the Six United Nations of Indians at Albany in Conjunction with the Lieutenant Governor of New York and the Commissioners of the other Governments:

[L. S.] "*George the Second, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, To Our Trusty and well-beloved John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, of the City of Philadelphia, Esquires, Greeting:*

"*Whereas*, the Honourable James De Lancy, Esquire, Our Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our Province of New York, has received Our Directions to hold an Interview with our loving and good Allies the Six United Nations of Indians at the City of Albany within Our said Province for delivering to them Our Presents and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and has fixed upon the Fourteenth Day of June ensuing for this Purpose; and it has been usual when an Interview has been held with these Indians for all his Majestie's Colonies whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them to join in such an Interview, and it appears to us that the present Disposition of those Indians, and the attempts which have been made to withdraw them from our Interest do make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this Time, when the Subjects of the French King have actually marched into and erected Forts and committed Hostilities within the known Limits of our Dominions; *Know Ye*, that Reposing Special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Abilities, and Prudence, We have thought fit to nominate and appoint You the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, and Every of You, our Commissioners on Behalf of Our Governor of our Province of Pennsylvania aforesaid, in Conjunction with Our Lieutenant Governor of New York and with the Commissioners of the other Governments, to treat with the said Six United Nations of Indians at Albany, or with their or any or every of their Chiefs of Delegates, and with them to renew, ratify, and confirm the Leagues of Amity subsisting between Us and the said Nations of Indians, and to make them the Presents that have been provided for them by the Governor and Assembly of Our said Province of Pennsylvania; and further, to do, act, transact, and finally to conclude and agree with the Indians aforesaid all and every other Matter and Thing which to You shall appear necessary for the engaging them heartily in our Interest, and for frustrating any Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from it, as

D

New York 21st May 1754.

My Lords

In my Letter of the 22d of April I acquainted your Lordships with the Sums of Money the Assembly had voted, to which I beg leave to refer, inclosing a Copy of it.

In the Bill they sent up to the Council for issuing the Money, several of the Allowances were made Payable on Receits, and not by Warrant; among the rest that of £1000 for subsisting the two Companies, ordered to Virginia, with Provisions for six Months, and the Council being of Opinion, that this Method of issuing the publick Money, was repugnant to his Majesty's Commission and Instructions, rejected the Bill, and advised me to prorogue the General Assembly, til the next day, and to recommend the providing for the services in a manner

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The Rt. Hons. the Lords Comrs. for Trade & Plantations.

not

not liable to Objection, which I accordingly did. I shall not trouble your Lordships with a particular Detail of the Proceedings, as I accompany this with the Votes, but shall only say, that after all my Endeavours, I could not prevail on them to give me Farthing for this Service or to enable me to raise Men for the Assistance of Virginia.

The extreme Obstinacy of the Assembly in this Instance, will point out to your Lordships the danger there is of the disappointment of any Service, however urgent it may be, as the Assembly on the one hand — will not recede, and the Council, on the other, think — themselves not at Liberty to give into the Assembly's Method, unless they depart from the Royal Instructions. For my own part, I look'd upon this Service, to be distinct from the annual and constant charges of Government. I should have made no difficulty in passing the Bill — rather than suffer a Service of this nature to drop. — relying on this, that the necessity I was thus laid under, would appear to your Lordships a sufficient Excuse;

and

and I beg your Lordships sentiments for my Guide upon such Occasions.

I lately received an Express from Gov.r Hamilton of Pensilvania, with Intelligence that the French had drove our People from a small Fort on the Ohio, and obliged them to retreat to the Inhabitants: and being uncertain whether your Lordships will receive this Advice earlier from Virginia, or otherways, I inclose Copies of the Papers. They came to my hands the 9.th Instant, a few days after I had prorogued the Assembly, and early in the next Month, I must embark to go to the Interview appointed with the six Nations at Albany, so that the time would not allow of my calling them again to lay these Papers before them. I cannot meet them till their Harvest is over, which will be the latter end of July or the beginning of August, when I hope they will shew such a Regard to their solemn Resolution approved of by his Majesty, as may redound to their Honour.

† I now send your Lordships some Papers relating

to

to the Division Line between New Jersey and the Province.
with a Copy of an ancient Map, said to be signed by
Andrew Hamilton, who was then Governor of East Jersey
I have drawn two lines on the Map, to distinguish in
a triangle, the Lands that are as I conceive still in
the Crown. I shall make no Observations on King
Charles 2d's Grant to the Duke of York, but will suppose
the Duke had a Right to grant the Lands, which he
did grant to Lord Berkley and Sir George Cartaret
and then it is to be considered how far the Duke's grant
to them, did extend up Delaware River. The Bounds
from Cape May at the Mouth of Delaware River, are
"extending to the Northward, as far as the Northernmost
Branch of the said Bay, or the River of Delaware, which
is in forty one degrees, and forty minutes of Latitude."
Here I would only observe, that the northernmost Branch
of the said Bay or River, is the terminus ad quem, the
Place at which they must stop: the words, so far as,
being the same in sence as, usque ad, which is always
exclusive of the Place to which you go: & that from
Cape May, to the Northernmost Branch of Delaware River

is

is the whole extent of the Western Boundary of Jersey. As for these Words which is in forty one degrees and forty minutes of Latitude, I do not take them to be part of the Description of the Boundary, they are only affirmative Words of Computation, or rather conjecture of the Latitude wherein the northernmost Branch or the Forks of Delaware lie. For Instance, if a Grant was made of all the Lands from London Bridge to Greenwich, which is ten miles; here the mistaken Computation made of the distance, will not carry the Grant beyond Greenwich. London Bridge being the terminus a quo, the place whence, and Greenwich the terminus ad quem, the Place to which, and these two make the Extent of the Grant, and are always understood to be exclusive. So of the Western Boundary of Jersey, the main Ocean at Cape May at the mouth of Delaware Bay, is the terminus a quo, and the Northernmost Branch of the said Bay or the River of Delaware, is the terminus ad quem — which make the Extent of the Jersey Grant on the West. For Delaware River is formed by the two Branches joining into one Body at the Forks, so that the Forks of Delaware may properly enough be said to be the ne plus ultra, of Jersey

on

on that Side. For the mistaken Computation of Distance or Latitude, cannot enlarge the Extent of a Grant, words of that sort being not descriptive but conjectural.

It is said, as the Patents of Hawxy Enda and Minisink are bounded on the Jersey Line, his Majesty's Interest cannot be concerned, Let the Line run where it will, but this is a mistake; for the Jersey Line on which these Patents were bounded, was the supposed line marked in the Map, which was at that time understood to be the Line, and they cannot be extended Southward, were it the real Line of Jersey is to run from the Forks of Delaware, or the Head of Delaware Bay, to the Station on Hudson's River opposite to the lower Yonkers: the King's Intention being to grant Lands no farther than the then supposed Line.

I wrote to Governor Belcher to propose a Line of Peace between the two Provinces, to put a stop to the Disputes and Disorders that are committed on the Borders: In which Letter I thought it my duty, as his Majesty's Servant, to tell him my Opinion that the Forks of Delaware, were the ne plus ultra of Jersey on that side. This Paragraph has drawn upon me a pretty extraordinary Proposal from

the

the Jersey Proprietors, which was delivered to me by Mr Alexander. I shall make no Reflections on it, but submit the Propriety of it to your Lordships Consideration. I must inform your Lordships that Mr Alexander is a Member of his Majesty's Council for this Province, and for the Province of Jersey — and a considerable Proprietor, and a chief Manager on behalf of the Jersey Proprietors. I leave it to your Lordships to consider how consistent this is, while there is this Controversy subsisting between the two Provinces, and between the Proprietors and his Majesty. I enclose the Report of a Committee of his Majesty's Council on the Disturbances between the People living on the Borders of the two Governments, and the Opinion of the Committee for establishing a line of Peace, until the Partition line be fixed between both Provinces, and Mr Alexanders Reasons for his Dissent to the said Report. Your Lordships will perceive the Opinion of his Majesty's Council to be, that the line of Peace, should run according to the supposed Line, and the Reasons upon which they ground their Opinions; and if they appear satisfactory, I hope Directions will be given to the Governors of the two —

Provinces

Provinces, that the line be so fixed and ascertained as a
Line of Peace, until his Majesty's Right be finally settled
in such a legal Course, as his Majesty shall think proper.

I am very backward to take any Steps to protect the
Freeholders and Inhabitants in the quiet Enjoyment
of their Possessions up to the supposed Line, as the Council
advise. The Reason, my Lords, is, that I am concerned
in the Munisink Patent, and so are my Brothers and
Sisters, as Devisees of my Father, who held two Shares in
that Patent. Nor shall I take any Steps without the
Advice of the Council. I beg your Lordships will be
pleased to direct me on this head.

As one of the Points in view at the Meeting
of Commissioners at Albany, is to concert Measures for
building Forts in advanced Places on the Frontiers, to cover
these Colonies, and in case of a War to annoy the French:
I would propose to your Lordships, that I might have
his Majesty's leave to pass a Bill for enrolling twenty
thousand pounds in Bills of Credit, to be put out at Interest
for the Space of ten years, at six per Cent, and then to be
paid into the Treasury and sunk: the whole of the Interest

to

to be applyed in building and supporting the Fortifications on the Frontiers, and to no other use. This Fund would produce £1200 per annum; and as the Assembly are averse to Taxes at this time, those of the last War not being yet at an End, it seems to me this measure is most likely to go down with them, and I cannot think it will have a bad Effect on the Credit of our Paper Currency, for from the best Information I could obtain, we have about £115,000 paper Currency, and we now sink annually by the Funds appropriated to that purpose £9,500.

[I have just received Advice from the Officer at Oswego that on the third Instant thirty French Batteaux loaded with Provisions under the Conduct of two Officers, past that Post, in their way to Niagara, supposed to be destin'd for the this.] I am

My Lord!

Your Lordships

most obedient & most

humble Servant

James De Lancey

New York.

Letter from Lt. Delany Esq.r D. Lt. Govr. of New York dated 21. May 1754. relative to the Proceedings of the French on the Ohio, & to the Boundary Line between that Province & New Jersey.

Read June 28th
Read D.o 25 } 1754

Kk. 7.

8 Papers

Hon.ble Sir.

It is with the greatest concern I acquaint you that Mr. Ward Ensign in Capt. Trent's Company was compelled to surrender his small Fort in the Forks of Mohongialo to the French on the 17th Instant, who fell down from Venango with a Fleet of 360 Batteaux and Canoes, with upwards of One thousand Men, and eighteen pieces of Artillery, which they planted against the Fort, drew up their Men, and sent the inclosed Summons to Mr. Ward, who having but an inconsiderable number of Men, and no Cannon to make a proper defence was obliged to surrender; they suffered him to draw off his Men, Arms, and Working Tools and gave leave that he might retreat to the Inhabitants.

I have heard of your Honours great Zeal for his Majesty's Service, and for all our Interests on the present Occasion — You will see by the inclosed Speech of the Half Kings, that the Indians expect some Assistance from you, and I am persuaded you will take proper notice of their moving Speech, and of their unshaken Fidelity.

I thought it more advisable to acquaint your Honour with it immediately, than to wait till you could get Intelligence by way of Williamsburg, and the Young Men, as the Half King proposes.

I have arrived thus far with a Detachment of 150 Men; Col. Fry with the Remainder of the Regiment and Artillery is daily expected. In the mean time, We

advance

advance Slowly a cross the Mountains, making the Road as we march, fit for the Carriage of Our Guns &c.ª and are designed to proceed as far as the mouth of Red Stone Creek, which enters Mohongialo, about 37 Miles above the Fort taken by the French, from whence we have a Water carriage down the River — And there is a Store House built by the Ohio Company, which may serve as a receptacle for our Ammunition and Provisions.

Besides these French that came from Venango, We have credible Accounts that another party are coming up Ohio — We also have Intelligence that two of the Chippawa and Ottoways, are marching down Scioto Cr.ᵏ to join them I hope your Honour will excuse the Freedom I have assumed in acquainting you with these advices — It was the warm Zeal I owe my Country that influenced me to it and occasioned this Express. I am with all due respect & regard

Your Honours most Obedient and very humble Servant.

G.ᵉ Washington.

James Riley the Express, says he left Mr. Washington at the Great Store on Fleshcomack about 130 Miles from Capt. Trents Fort at the Mouth of Mohongiale, on Saturday 27th April.

Philadelphia 6th May 1754. A true Copy Examined by

Richard Peters Secry

New York 16th May 1754. A true Copy Exam.ᵈ by

Geo. Clinton Dep.ᵗʸ Secry

To the Honourable James Hamilton Esq.ʳ Governour of Pensylvania

Copy New York.

Major Washington's Letter
to Governor Hamilton, —
advising that the French had
taken and drove the English
from a small Fort on the
Ohio.

Read with M. Dr.
Carey's Letter dated 21.
May 1754

Read June 24
Read Do. 25 } 1754

Kk. 8.

April 18th 1754. From the Fort on Ohio

A Speech sent from the Half King* Scruniyatha and the Belt of Wampum, to the Governor of Virginia and Governor of Pensylvania.

Brothers the English, the Beaver is to let you know how we were used by the French, We have been waiting this long time for the French to strike us, now we see what they design to do with us, We are ready to strike them now, and wait for your Assistance; be strong and come as soon as possible you can, and you shall find us your true Brothers, and shall find us as ready to strike them as you are. We have sent these two young men to see when you were ready to come, and then they are to come to us and let us know where you are, that we may come and meet you; And we would desire if you could, that the men from both provinces would meet at the Forks of the Road. And now if you do not come to our Relief, We are gone intirely, and shall never meet, I believe, which grieves my Heart. To confirm this to be truth here is my Wampum I have sent.

Gave a String of Wampum.

The Half King made this Speech to me; now I depend upon you to go with these two young men to both Governors your self; for I have no dependance on those that are gone so long, and has never returned or sent any Word.

Delivered to me by John Davison an Interpreter.

* The name of the Indian Chief.

Philadelphia 6th May 1754. A true Copy Examined by Richard Peters Secry

New York 16th May 1754. A true Copy Exam'd by

P. Bennet Secry

Copy 8th April 1754.
New York

Speech from the Half King to the Governors of Virginia and Pensylvania, desiring the English to join them against the French, on the Ohio.

Read with Mr. Delancy's Letter 21. May 1754

Read 21 June
Read 25 Do. } 1754

Kk. 9.

A Summon by order of Contrecœur, Captain of One of the Companies of the Detachement of the French Marine; Commander in Chief of his Majesty's most Christian Troops now on the Beautiful River; To the Commander of those of the King of great Britain, at the mouth of the River Monongahela.

Sir

Nothing can surprize me more, than to see you Attempt a Settlement upon the Lands of the King, my Master, which obliges me now Sir to send you this Gentleman Chevalier Le Mercier, Captain of the Bombardiers, Commander of the Artillery of Canada, to know of you Sir, by Virtue of what Authority you are come to fortify your self within the Dominions of the King my Master. This Action seems so contrary to the last Treaty of Peace, concluded at Aix La Chapelle, between his most Christian Majesty and the King of great Britain, that I do not know, to whom; to impute such a Usurpation, as it is incontestable that the Lands Situated along the beautifull River, belong to his most Christian Majesty.

I am informed Sir, that your undertaking, has been conceted by none else, than by a Company who have more in View the advantage of a Trade, than to endeavour to keep the Union and harmony which Subsists between the Crowns of France and great Britain; altho it is as much the Interest, Sir; of your

Nation

Nation, as Ours to preserve it.

Let it be as it will, Sir; if you come into this — place Charged with Orders, I Summon you in the name of the King my Master, by Vertue of Orders which I got from my General, to retreat peaceably with your Troops from off the Lands of the King, and not return; or else I find my self obliged to fulfill my duty, and Compel you to it; I hope Sir, you will not defer an Instant, — and that you will not force me to the least Extremity; in — that case Sir you may be perswaded, that I will give orders that there shall be no Damage done by my — Detachment.

I prevent you Sir from the Trouble of asking me one hour of delay, nor to wait for my consent to receive Orders from your Governor. He can give none — within the Dominions of the King my Master; those I have received of my General are my Laws, so that I cannot depart from them.

If on the Contrary Sir, you have not got orders, and only come to Trade, I am sorry to tell you, that I — cant avoid seizing you, and to Confiscate your effects, to the use of the Indians our Children Allies and — Friends; as you are not allowed to carry on a — Contraband Trade. It is for this Reason Sir, that we — Stopped two Englishmen last year, who were Trading upon our Lands, moreover the King my Master asks nothing but his right, he has not the least Intention to trouble the good Harmony, and Friendship, which

Reigns

Reigns between his Majesty and the King of Great Britain.

The Governor of Canada, can give proof of having done his utmost endeavours, to maintain the perfect Union which Reigns between two friendly Princes, as he had learned that the Iroquois, and Nepissingues of the Lake of the two Mountains, had struck and destroyed an English Family towards Carolina, he has barred up the Road and forced them to give him a little Boy belonging to that Family, which was the only one alive, and which Mr. Wenick a Merchant of Montreal has carried to Boston; and what is more he has forbid the Savages from Exercising their accustomed Cruelty upon the English our friends.

I cou'd complain bitterly Sir, of the means taken all last Winter, to instigate the Indians to accept the Hatchet, and to strike us while we were striving, to Maintain the Peace.

I am well persuaded Sir of the polite manner in which you will receive Mr. Le Moyne, as well out of Regard to his business, as his Distinction and personal Merit. I expect you will send him back with one of your Officers, who will bring me a precise Answer. As you have got some Indians with you Sir, & Join with Mr. Le Moyne an Interpreter, that he may Inform them of my intentions upon that subject.

I

I am with great Regard.

Sir

Your most humble and most

Obedient Servant

Contrecœur.

Done at Our Camp

April 16th 1754

Philadelphia 6th May 1754.

A true Copy Examined by.

New York 16 May 1754. A true Copy Exam'd by

Richard Peters Secy

Peter Force Secy

Copy

Extract from the Journals of the Commissioners for the Affairs of the French Encroachments on the Back Inhabitants of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia. Monday 6th May 1754

Read & Agreed to

Ordered 25. Copies

Ent. No. 10.

May it please Your Honour

In obedience to Your Honour's Order in Council on the thirty first day of January last, — Mentioning two Letters from his Excellency Governor Belcher, of New Jersey, relating to the Disputes between persons Living on the Borders of the two Governments concerning their Lands; and that he Should be glad that Amicable and Conciliating Measures might be Concerted and fallen upon by both Governments, that the Borders may might be easy, till his Majesty's pleasure should be known in this Matter: mentioning also a Memorial laid before the said Governor, by the Council of Proprietors of New Jersey, respecting the said dispute; And also a Letter from some — Justices of the Peace, and another Letter from the Sheriff of Orange County, relating to the Disputes betwee the persons Living on the Borders of this Province and that of New Jersey; and Sundry disturbances that have lately happened on the said Borders: Signifying also their Opinion of your Honour and of his Majesty's Council of this Province, that it is absolutely necessary a Line of Peace should be fixed and agreed on by the two — Governments, to prevent any future Disputes or disorders between the Inhabitants of both Provinces, until the Controversy should be Settled in a Legal Course; and referring to us as a Committee of his Majesty's Council of this Province, to Examine into the Claims of the Patentees of Monimouth and Hunterdon — respecting the Premises, and to report Our Opinion — thereon

(1)

Where such Line of Peace should be fixed; and — further to make Enquiry into the said Disturbances, and to report to Your Honour Our Opinion as to what we think proper to be done thereupon.

We therefore having examined the Claims of the said Patentees of Minisinck and Wawayanda, and made diligent enquiry concerning the late Disturbances; do humbly Report to your Honor:—

That the Province of New Jersey was Originally part of this Province of New York, and that the Rights of that Province depend upon Grants of his Majesty King Charles the Second, to his Brother the Duke of York, afterwards King James the Second and from the said Duke of York, to John Lord Berkley and Sir George Cartaret, under Whom the Persons called the Proprietors of East and West Jersey, claim.

That we do not take upon our Selves to determine the Limits and Boundary of the Lands Granted as aforesaid, which appear to us to have been long — Controverted; but most humbly Submit it to his — Majesty (who in right of his Crown is Greatly — concerned in that dispute) to determine it by — such method as to his Majesty Shall seem most — proper: but as a Line of Peace appears to Your Honour and to us, to be Absolutely necessary to be fixed and Settled with all possible Speed, in order to prevent any further Breach of the publick Peace by the Borderers on the disputed Line; We beg leave to — Inform Your Honour;

That a Line was agreed to some time in the —

Year

Year 1686, Between Thomas Dongan Esqr then Governr of New York, and the Governr of New Jersey, to be run — from a certain place on Hudson's River, due West from Frederick Philipse's Lower Mills, and to extend from — thence to certain marked Trees on Delaware River: but We don't find that the said Line has ever been actually run, nor has the exact place where those marked Trees — then Stood, hitherto appeared to us with Sufficient proof. Nevertheless We find.

That after that Line had been agreed to, a Line was thereupon Supposed to be a Division Line, Laying the Jurisdiction of the two Governments, and was supposed to extend from that place on Hudson's River, to the Southward of Great and Little Minisinck, thence Crossing the East Branch of Delaware River, to the West Branch — thereof, where the said Marked Trees Stood, and in Consequence thereof Great part of the Vacant Lands between Hudson's River, and the said East Branch, were long before the Year 1719, Granted by Letters Patents under the Great Seal of this Province, as Lands within the same, and so bounded as by express Terms, or necessary Implication, to extend Southerly to such Supposed partition Line among which are the Patents of Wawayanda and Minisinck.

We also find that his Majesty's Subjects Inhabiting within the Province of New York, have at divers times since the Year 1686, made Settlements bordering on the said Supposed Line, and have always since paid their Taxes and performed their duty's in the Militia of this Province; Enjoyed their priviledges in choice of — Representatives in General Assembly, and of other Officers, and many of them have served in Civil and Military Offices, and have had the protection of this

Government,

Government, as holding their Professions within the same, conformable to such supposed Partition Line. And that this Province Claimed and exercised Jurisdiction to such supposed Partition Line, also appeared.

1st. By an Act passed in the third year of King William and Queen Mary 1691 "to divide this Province and Dependencies into Shires and Counties" in which the County of Orange is declared "to begin from the Limits and bounds of East and West Jersey on the Westside of Hudsons River, along the said River to the Murderers Creek or bounds of the County of Ulster, and Westward into the Woods as far as Delaware River."

2dly By an Act of the 13th of King William 1701 "for the more regular proceedings in the Elections of Representatives for the several Cities and Counties within this Province" in which it is declared, that disputes had arisen between the Counties of Orange and Ulster relating to Wagachemack and Great and Little Minisinck, and therefore those places, are by this Act annexed to the County of Ulster, until the bounds between the Counties of Orange and Ulster should be settled: and the Inhabitants of those places, were thereby impowered to give their Votes for Representatives in the County of Ulster.

3dly By an Act of the 3d of Queen Anne 1704 "to settle and ascertain the Bounds and Limits of the County of Orange" whereby it was enacted "that the County of Orange should extend from the Limits and Confines of the Province of New Jersey on the West side of Hudsons River, along the said River, to the line of the County of Ulster, and Westward so

for

"far as Delaware River."

And as at the times of passing those Acts, there was no line of Division between the two Provinces that was known of, except that of 1683, We Conclude this must have been the Line which the Legislature of this Province ——— esteemed the Limits of the two Governments.

We do not find that the Government of New Jersey did ever make any Pretensions to the Jurisdiction of, or that the Proprietors of New Jersey did Claim any right to, any Lands beyond the said Supposed Line, for upwards of thirty Years after the same was agreed to as aforesaid. But of late Years We find that the said Proprietors of New Jersey, have made many Encroachments; and that that Government hath extended its Jurisdiction to the ——— Northward of such Supposed partition line, by virtue of Sundry pretences of Right, which appear to us to be ——— very detrimental to the Interest of his Majesty, and the Just Right of his Subjects within this Province; which, have been the Cause of much disorder, and the frequent Breach of the Publick peace; and more such mischiefs are likely to ensue, unless effectual measures be speedily taken to prevent them.

Particularly We find.

1st. That Breaches of the peace are frequently committed by the persons Inhabiting near the Borders of the said disputed Line, which take their Rise from the Clashing and Interfering of the Jurisdiction Claimed and exercised by both Governments.

2dly. That the Justices of the peace of both Provinces have been apprehended and Committed to Goal, for Executing the ——— Authority which they derived from their respective Governm.ts

3dly. That the Borderers frequently oust each other from

their

their respective Possessions.

All which Acts are attended with force and violence on both Sides; and as these disorders arise from the late Extension of Possession and Jurisdiction on the part of New Jersey several Miles within this Province further Northward than the Line agreed to as aforesaid in the year 1686; there is no Reason to hope from any thing that appears to us that they will cease, till at least some temporary Line or Limit be set to the Jurisdiction and Authority of both Governments.

As to the long Memorial laid before Governor Belcher by the Council of Proprietors, which seems to Aim at establishing the Line of 1719. We did not think it necessary to consider the numerous particulars thereof at present, in as much as by the Copy of a Report from the Lords Commissioners of Trade, to his Majesty, dated the eighteenth day of July last, upon the Act of Assembly of New Jersey passed in 1727 & which your Honor was pleased to lay before the Council for the perusal of this Committee We find that their Lordships after having heard the Solicitors and Council on both sides, represent to his Majesty, that it appears to them Governor Hunter ought not to have Issued his Commission for Running that line, without having previously received the Royal direction and Instruction for that purpose; and that a Commission issued without such Authority, can be considered with respect to the Interests of the Crown, in no other light than as a meer Nullity: and in the Conclusion of the said Report their Lordships declare, that as the Act in Question could not be effectual to the ends proposed: that his Majesty's Interest might be materially affected by it; And that the proceedings

On

On which it was found[ed], were not Warranted in the first Instance, by the proper Authority, but carryed on without the Ratification of the Crown, they could not think it advisable to lay the same before his Majesty, as fit to Receive his Royal Approbation.

Upon the Whole we are humbly of Opinion:

1st. That as great numbers of Freeholders and Inhabitants hold their Lands under Grants from this Province, long before the Year 1719, so far Southward as the Line in 1686; they Should and Ought to be protected by the Government in the just Enjoyment of their possessions. —

2dly That your Honour be pleased to Signify to Governor Belcher, the utmost Willingness on the part of this — Government, to do every thing in it's power to give ease to the Borderers on the Respective Provinces, — Consistent with the Just Rights of the Crown, and the — Inhabitants of this Province; and to Joyn with that — Government in running a Temporary Line of Jurisdiction and peace, Conformable to the said Line agreed on in the year 1686; And that your Honour be pleased also to signify to Governour Belcher, your Readiness to Concert Measures — with him for this purpose.

3dly That your Honour be pleased on the part of this — Government, to declare the utmost readiness to Joyn with that Government, in the Speediest Application to his — Majesty, to Authorize and direct the Settelment of a true partition Line between both Provinces.

And Lastly if the Government of New Jersey shall — agree to the Running such Line of peace, that your — Honor do Recommend to the General Assembly at their — next meeting, to provide for the One half of the Expence thereof.

And

And if that Government will Join with this, in an Application to his Majesty for the final Settlement of a Partition Line between the two Provinces; then also to provide for the One half of the Expence that may attend the same.

All which is Nevertheless humbly submitted.

By Order of the Committee

Joseph Murray Chairman

New York 1st March 1754

New York 20th April 1754 A true Copy Drawn by

Peter Fell Clerk

New York 1st March 1754

Report of a Committee of the Council on the Disturbances between the People living on the Borders of New York & New Jersey Governments and the Opinion of the Committee for establishing a Line of Peace until the Partition Line be fixed between the two Provinces.

Copy.

Rec'd with Mr. Delancey's Let. of 21. May 1754

Read 27 June

Read 25 Do 1754

Jkk.

Mr. Alexander's Reasons for his Dissent.

1st For that he humbly conceives where an affair is referred to a Committee, all Transactions before them of Moment that concern that affair, ought to be Reported for the approbation or Disallowance of the Council. But sundry things of Moment (as he conceives) were transacted before the Committee, whereof no mention is made in the Report, which he thinks there should have been, and particularly the following.

On February 1st last, Messrs. Scott and Mackewers two of the Attorneys for New York, appeared before the Committee, and acknowledged that they had with Mr Alsop the other Attorney, upon the Recommendation of the Committee, signed the Letter of February 2d to Mathews and Sacket, whereof Copy was then before the Committee: And thereon the said Alexander then acknowledged that he signed the Letter of February 2d to Richard Gardiner, whereof copy was then also before the Committee, at which time also the said Committee acknowledged they had recommended as before.

On which said 1st of February a paper Intitled Proposals &c. then before the Committee was acknowledged by the said Scott and Mackewers to have been signed by them, and the said Alsop,

Which

Which paper was then delivered to the said Alexander in presence of the Committee.

That on the 12. of February last it appeared to the said Committee, that on the eighth day of that Month, the said Alexander had sent to the Chairman of the Committee a copy of a Minute of Council of New Jersey of February 7th approving of the said Letters of February 2d with Additions; and by Letter therewith had requested that a Committee should be without delay Summoned with one or more of the Gentlemen who signed the Letter of February 2d to Mathews and Jacket, that the matters of that Minute might be as Solemnly acknowledged before them, as the said matters acknowledged on the 1st of February, and that it might be delivered to one or more of the said Gentlemen concerned for New York, in presence of the Committee; and that the Chairman would be pleased to bring the said paper with him for that purpose. Which paper was brought by another Gentleman of the Committee, and to which the said Alexander then added a Declaration dated the 11th of February, and which paper with the said Declaration were acknowledged by the said Alexander in presence of the Committee, and as neither

of

of the said Gentlemen concerned for New York appeared, it was left with the Clerk of the Committee, in order to be delivered to some of the said Gentlemen: Which Clerk afterwards declared in the presence of the Committee on the 25th, that he had delivered a copy thereof to one of them.

That on the 25th day of February last it appeared to the said Committee, that the said Alexander had on the 23d day of that Month, delivered to the Chairman of the Committee, a Paper purporting to be an Answer, by Samuel Neill and him, to the said paper, Intitled Proposals &c.a delivered to him on the 1th requesting that a Committee might be Summoned, with some of the said Gentlemen concerned for New York, in order that the said Answer might before the Committee be acknowledged and delivered in like manner as the proposals had been, and to bring the said Answer with him for that purpose. On which 25th day of February, the said Answer was by the Chairman accordingly brought, and in presence of the Committee acknowledged by the said Alexander, and delivered to some of the Gentlemen concerned for New York then attending — At which time the said Alexander also in presence of the Committee, read, and then — delivered to the said Gentlemen, a Memorandum

Certified

Certified by him of what had passed in the Council, and Committee of Council of New Jersey, concerning that Answer, the substance of which the said Alexander declared he had verbally acquainted the Chairman with on the 23, which was not denied by the said Chairman.

2dly For that many Facts are set forth in the said Report, the proofs whereof the said Alexander humbly conceives ought to appear to the Council, to enable them to Judge of the Report, and to agree or Dissent to it, especially as sundry of the Council were not present at the Committee when those proofs appeared to them, and as its alledged that those proofs are in the hands of the said Gentlemen concerned as Attorneys for New York, its conceived they should have attended the Council, with the proofs of those facts.

3dly For that instead of Reporting what they did not find, concerning the Jurisdiction and claims of New Jersey for thirty years after 1686 &c., he humbly conceives the Committee ought to have enquired into those matters, and Reported what they did find upon that enquiry, which had they been pleased to do. they might have found by the Minutes of Council of New York of 1686,

pointed

pointed to in the said Answer to the proposals delivered the 25th of February last, that New Jersey not only then claimed a Line from the Latitude of 41° 10' on Delaware, to 41° on Hudson's River, as the line of their property and Jurisdiction, according to the several Deeds from the Duke of York, (and which line was discovered by the observations in 1719) but likewise that that line was then agreed to be so, by the Governor and Council of New York, and then directed by them to be run; and consequently that claim and right both to Soil and Jurisdiction up to that Line, continued not only for thirty years after 1686, but continues to this day: and as actual Possession best shows who claims, Would the Committee have enquired of or concerning the several actual Possessors of the Lands South westwards of the Line by the observations of 1719, abreast of the great and Little Minisink Patents, and within fourteen Miles of the said Line, and so far as to the South end of Minisinks Island, who are about 40 families in Number, by what Titles they claimed or held their Possessions, and how long; he has good reason to believe that the Answers would have been, under New Jersey some for forty years past, and others more and some less. without any exception but of four families lately got into Possession there, whereof two have possessed themselves of the very Lands that the

Westfalls

West falls were formerly possessed of under New Jersey, and mentioned in Articles 16 & 19 of the Memorial, and now he is informed that those New possessors claim them as part of the little Minisink Patent; and two other Families at Machiyiaconck, formerly Tenants to the owners of that Land under New Jersey Title, who on the refusal to continue their Leases) about five years ago got applyed to one of the owners of the great Minisink patent for protection, and who has protected them there ever since as part of the great Minisink Patent against the former Owners of that Land under New Jersey: and would the Commitee have enquired as who was possessed, abreast of the patent of Hardenbergh and Company, they might have found one family in Possession under New-Jersey, at the very station point on Delaware discovered in 1719, but none in Possession under New York Southwestward of the Line there. And would the Committee have enquired of or concerning the Titles of those in Possession, Southwestward of the Line by the observations of 1719, abreast of that part of the Hawayanda patent which is Westward of the drowned Lands, being about one half of its length along the Line, and so far Southward as the Expressions and threats of New York have within 13 years

years last extended, who are far above One hundred families in Number, they might have found them possessed under New Jersey Titles, with one single exception only of one family, who settled there last year; so that along the line from the station on Delaware discovered in 1719, for about three Miles abreast of Hardenberg's Patent, about thirty two Miles abreast of the Minisink Patents, and about 8 Miles abreast of Wawayanda Patent, making in all about forty three Miles of the Length of the Line, (which space has been the very scene, and almost the whole of the scene of all the New York Oppressions complained of for 13 years past: for no one breach of the peace hath he heard of to his Remembrance to the Southeastward concerning the line, except those in the 30th. 40th and 41st Articles of the Memorial, no more than the said five families under New York Title have as yet got into possession, for above 30 Miles down Delaware, from the Station point of 1719, and for about 43 Miles along the line from that Station point; at least it appeared so in February last, when those matters were strictly enquired into on the part of New Jersey — and for Brevity the said Alexander refers to Articles 20, 29, 36, and 37 of the Memorial, for what the Committee might have found as to actual possession — abreast of about thirty two Miles, the remainder of the Line. And would the Committee have

made.

made enquiry who were the aggressors in the many breaches of the peace on the Borders, he humbly conceives they must have found the people of Orange County to be the continued aggressors, without any resistance or Reprisal by New Jersey for above 13 years Oppression, without redress of their complaints until the 16th of January last, after the second late great and forcible Irruption of numbers of Orange People into New Jersey, and for apprehending some of those Rioters a third Irruption of Orange men to the number of about 60 persons followed on the 19th, and had not some of the ringleaders in those Riots been apprehended by the Authority of New Jersey, more like irruptions might very probably have since happened. He begs this the whole of this to be understood, that by New York and Orange men, and all whom he charges with Oppressions and Wrong, he means only people of the Minisink and Wawayanda patents, and even not all of them, for he has reason to believe that many of the Wawayanda Patent, do abhor the Oppressions under which New Jersey has so long groaned and complained with Redress. And that a great Majority of the Wawayanda men who assisted the Minisink men in the three late Irruptions into New Jersey since December 12th

12th last, did not give that assistance until by force and threats they were compelled thereto.

Thly 4. For that he believes the proofs to support the 3d Fact reported to be found to will That the Borderers frequently Oust each other from their respective Possessions cannot be sufficient to prove that Fact, because, tho' he admits the fact may be true as to the said four Families abreast of the great Minisink Patent and little Minisink Patent, who may have ousted the prior New Jersey Possessors as before, yet he is far from believing that any of New Jersey has Ousted any Person claiming under New York of their Possessions, even tho' wrongfully and injuriously taken and detained, so passive have the people of New Jersey hitherto been, to the many wrongs they have suffered, and so often complained of, for 13 Years past without Redress, as by the Memorial appears.

Thly 5. Admitting that the supposed Line to which its alledged that the Patents of Wawayanda and great Minisinks extended, were established so far Southward as the Jurisdiction of New York has lately by force and Violence been extended Viz.t to the South end of Minisink Island, which is above thirty miles below the Station Point on Delaware, discovered in 1719, Yet the said Alexander neither knows nor believes that the

Crown

Crown would be one penny benefited by that extention, nor that if the Line was fixed according to the observations of 1719, that it would be one penny detrimental to the Interest of his Majesty as to Quit Rents, — Escheats, or otherwise, except in that single point discovered by the Lords of Trade, the Chance of Vacating those New York Grants on the Line as Exorbitant as in page 30 and 31 of the Memorial, which the Establishing the supposed Line above thirty miles down — Delaware, below the Station point discovered in 1719, would give a most reasonable chance for.

6thly As the Report proposes a Line to be run for a Temporary Line which is alledged was agreed to in the year 1686 in the manner as is Supposed in the Report, (which Line and the marked Trees mentioned in the Report, the said Alexander declares he never to his Remembrance heard of, till hearing that Report read) he apprehends that it would be injurious to the Characters of the Governor and Council of New York, to suppose they should expect that such a supposed Line should be agreed to on the part of New Jersey, without sufficient proofs appearing to them that such a Line was really agreed to as

is supposed: Wherefore the said Alexander begs leave humbly to desire that the said Gentlemen Attorneys for New York, may be ordered to give him a List of those proofs, and to point to such of those proofs as are on Record by Book and Leaf, and to produce such as they have which are not on Record, and give Copies of such of them as may be desired on sight thereof, (for which the said Alexander will be ready to pay them) that the same may be considered on the part of New Jersey and a reasonable Answer given to this proposal.

Mr. Alexander owns he is Interested in this matter, and accepted of being one of a Committee on the part of New Jersey on this affair, as appears in Article 32. of the printed Memorial, from whence it may be imagined he has a Bias in behalf of New Jersey, and for which Reason he supposes he was not Summoned to act with the Committee of this Board on this matter. But as his Interest in New York, appearing by N.o 7 annexed to that Memorial, nearly ballances his New Jersey Interest, he conceives himself more disinterested in this case than sundry Gentlemen of the Committee that made this Report, who are considerably Interested in the New York Talents, along the line, without any New Jersey Interest to ballance that; and as he was duly Summoned to this Council

without

without any Notice of what was to be debat-
-ed in it. he conceives he has at least as good
a right as those more interested Gentlemen
to deliver his Sentiments on this head.

Ja: Alexander

March 4th 1754.

A true Copy of Reasons offered by Mr Alexander for his Dissent
to the Report of the Commissrs of Counsel of New York dated
1st March 1754 proposing a Line of Peace between New York
and New Jersey; which Reasons were read in Council on
the 13th of March and entered in the Minutes. New York
20 April 1754 Examd Per me

Jno Tabt. Yates Deputy

New York 1st March 1754

Mr Alexander's Reasons for his Dissent to the Report of the Committee of Council of New York dated 1 March 1754 proposing a Line of Peace between New York and New Jersey Governments

Copy.

Read with Mr De-
lancy - Lee 21 May
1754

Read June 23
Read 25 Do } 1754

Kk. 12.

Things to be conferred on with his Honour Lieutenant Governor DeLancey, concerning his Letter to Governor Belcher of the 15th of March 1751.

That the said Letter being referred to the Council of Proprietors to make Answer to it as well as to the Report: They would be very sorry that their Answer to that part of it concerning the ne plus ultra of New Jersey, should draw him into a personal contest with them; and tho they should endeavour that their Answer should carry the utmost respect to him, yet they were afraid least their having the better of the Argument on that point, (which they very little doubted they should have) might prove disagreeable to him, and possibly by some thought a reflection upon him.

That had the same thing come from the Council or the Attorneys, he might have been clear of the inconveniences that probably will attend the coming from him, and if it can be as yet contrived to come from either of them, he thinks it still will be much better, especially if Governor Belcher will consent to accept of another Letter from his Honour without that Paragraph, and give back the former, which Alexander (if his Honour desires it) will Endeavour for, and

that

that the Council of Proprietors accept the copy of that Letter, and deliver up the copy of the former.

This Paragraph should it stand as a part of his Letter, that the Council of Proprietors are to Answer, must naturally induce them to make a regular demand of him (hereafter to be published to the World) of those facts and Reasons that induced him to be of that Opinion: and he is too judicious not to see the ill consequences of either granting or refusing that demand.

As that ne plus Ultra, is now for the first time set up in Writing, the said Alexander is confident, that the Council of Proprietors will not part with it entirely, without a full Answer to it: so that if it cannot be made the Act of the Council, or the Attornies, it must remain his Act, and be answered as such.

The Council of Proprietors have made no Minute in the above affair, and intend none; hoping his Honour will render it needless as before: and that that Paragraph may be buried in Oblivion.

As to the last Paragraph of his Honours Letter in these words "I do further

"further propose that noli prosequis be granted
"from both governments, to put an end to the
"prosecutions that are now carrying on in each
"province." the said Alexander has it in particular
charge from the Council of Proprietors, to repre-
-sent to his Honour, that it would be to very
little purpose to have noli prosequis as to those
now carrying on, unless both sides are some
way or other secured from the like prosecutions
for the future.

That he has it also in particular
charge, to confer with his Honour on the ways and
means of that Security, and if reasonable,
Mr Neill and the said Alexander, are impowered
in Writing to agree to it: but if such security be
not found and agreed to, the Council of Proprie-
tors will decline agreeing to noli prosequis as
to those now carrying on; and assign that refu-
sal of such security, on the part of New York, as
the cause of their so declining.

The Council of Proprietors have made
a Minute in the above affair concerning Noli
prosequis, and expect a Report on it, which
Report the said Alexander will be ready to
Communicate to his Honour, that if any thing
he may think amiss in it may be amended.

4 April 1754

Copy. New York

Memorandum Points, upon which the Proprietors of East Jersey, desire to confer with the Governor of New York,

Recd with Mr Delancy's Letter 11 May 1754

Read June 23. 1754
Read 25 Do

Rec. 13.

C. O. 5/1066 M. P. L. 186.

Degrees 39 10 min. 20 min. 30 min. 40 min. 50 min. Degrees 40 10 min. 20 min. 30 min. 40 min. 50 min. Degrees 41 10 min. 20 min. 30 min. 40 min. 50 min. Degrees 42

George Keiths map of
East Jersey's according to true
position West according to the
magnet whose Variation is
nine degrees westerly —
This is Given in by the Surveyor as
the true Copy of the map of East West
Jersey's, the other being Signed by
Governor Sherc

And: Hamilton

Copy

Copy pricked from the above described — map, Except
the differences following mentioned viz.t Upper Line Laid down from the Station
point on Hudsons river © due west from Lower Gotheers le the Station point © on delaware
Branch, Above point's Line Laid down from the Station point on the Sea coast to anoth.r
Station on the aforesaid Branch of Delaware, mentioned for the parting line between
the East and West Jerseys —

Delaware River

Raritan River

Millstone River

South River

Bound Brook

Cripplebush

Staten Island

middletown

Amboy

Newyork

Hudsons River

Degrees 39 10 min. 20 min. 30 min. 40 min. 50 min. Degrees 40 10 min. 20 min. 30 min. 40 min. 50 min. Degrees 41 10 min. 20 min. 30 min. 40 min. 50 min. Degrees 42

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
1 2 3 4 5 6
Reference :—
COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH—NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHIC-

New York

Copy of Keith's
Map of East & West
Jersey

Sent with Wm. Delany's
Let of 21. May 1754

Received June 23 1754
Read June 25th 54

SKK 14.

Dupleix Richard

à Mrs Les Auguste et Bigot.

M. M. à Versailles le 20. May 1754

Je vous ai cy devant fait part des plaintes qui ont été portées au Roy au sujet des protestans qui depuis quelques années se sont établis en Canada. Il est tems depuis à S. M. que nous soumettons tous les ans dans la Colonie, mais encore que leur conduite y devient plus dangereuse. Comme M. me vient qu'on se dispose pour plus longtemps de prendre les moyens qui peuvent le plus convenablement y prévenir les suites qui en pourroient résulter.

C'est dans cette vue que l'intention du Roy a été que vous constatiés le nombre de ces Religionnaires, ce que vous m'en envoyés une liste qui exprime leurs noms, leurs professions, l'état de leurs familles, depuis quel temps ils sont dans la Colonie, et la conduite qu'ils y tiennent. Il suppose qu'il y en ait quelqu'un à échanger, et vous avez que vous l'en prévenir. Je vous les arrangements qu'il faut y avoir à prendre par rapport à ceux qui sont Français, elle désire que vous vous concertiés avec M. l'Evêque de Québec, et que vous vous entendiés avec lui et que vous m'envoyés votre projet en commun, et mes ordres sur ce. M.

Je suis parfait

Monsieur

à Dupleix Richard

Mrs Versailles le 30. May 1754.

J'ay examiné les observations que vous m'avés faites pour votre Lettre de 22. 8bre de l'année dernière au sujet des Terres concédées aux Jésuites pour leurs missions de la Louisiane

Dès que par les Lettres Patentes du 29. may 1680. enregistrées le 15. Juin 1717. qui sont les titres de concession de ces Terres il est expressément stipulé que ces Terres appartiendront toutes défrichées au Roy lorsque les sauvages Iroquois de la mission les quitteront, il est inutile à propos que les Jésuites prétendent que la propriété leur appartient, quelle soit entière d'un disposer. La Concession est faite pour la mission, et dès qu'elle revient au Roy, de même

que la Mission n'y fera employée - Comme quelle y sera bien reçue
représente fera aucunes dispositions qui soient contraires aux
droits de S.M. - C'est enquête vous chargé d'expliquer de sa part
aux Supérieurs des Jésuites en lui disant que s'il a des
représentations à faire sur lui elle il peut vous les remettre
pour que vous m'en rendiez compte

Jésuites
en Mys

obt

Indians will not strike the French unless this Province, or New York, engage with them; and that by sending some Number of Men to their immediate assistance; the Reasons are plain, to wit, that they dont look upon their late Friendship with Virginia sufficient to engage them in a War with the French; I therefore think, with Submission, that, to preserve our Indian allies, this Province ought instantly to send out some Men either less or more which I have good Reason to hope would have the desired Effect, otherwise I doubt there will in a little Time be an entire Separation, the Consequences of which You are best able to judge &c. I am informed by my Brother, who is lately come from the Lakes, that there is at that Place a great Number of French Indians preparing to come down to the assistance of the French at Ohio; I am likewise informed by a young Indian Man, who by my Brothers Directions spent some Days with the French at Mohongialo, that they ..... expect a great Number of French down the River very soon. I have delayed my Journey to Ohio, and waited with great Impatience for Advices from Philadelphia, but have not yet received any; I am now obliged to go to Col& Washington, who has sent for me many Days ago to go with him to meet the Half King Monacatoocha and Others that are coming to meet the Virginia Companies, and as they think some from Pennsylvania, and would have been glad to have known the Designs of this Province in these Matters before I had gone. I am

Sir

Your very humble Servant

Andrew Montour.

Richard Peters Esquire.

Memorandum.

On the Thirtieth Day of May the Governor signd the following Commission for John Penn, Richard Peters, Benjamin Franklin and Isaac Norris Esquires to hold a Treaty with the Six United Nations of Indians at Albany in Conjunction with the Lieutenant Governor of New York and the Commissioners of the other Governments.

Pensilvania ss. GEORGE the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth To Our Trusty and well beloved John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin of the City of Philadelphia Esquires Greeting Whereas the Honourable James DeLancey Esquire Our Lieutenant Governor and ..... Commander in Chief of Our Province of New York has received Our Directions to hold an Interview with our Loving and good Allies the Six United Nations of Indians at the City of Albany within Our said Province for delivering to them Our Presents, and for ..... renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and has fixed upon the Fourteenth Day of June ensuing for this Purpose; and it has been usual when an Interview has been held with these Indians for all his Majesties Colonies whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them to join in such an Interview; and it appears to Us that the present Disposition of those Indians, and the Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from our Interest do make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this Time, when the Subjects of the French King have actually marched into, and erected Forts and committed Hostilities within the known Limits of our Dominions KNOW Ye that Reposing Special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, abilities and Prudence, We have thought fit to nominate and appoint You the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin and Every of You Our Commissioners on Behalf of Our Governor of Our Province of Pennsylvania aforesaid in Conjunction with Our Lieutenant Governor of New York and with the Commissioners of the other Governments to treat with the said Six United Nations of Indians at Albany, or with their or any or every of their Chiefs or Delegates, and with them to renew, ratify and confirm the Leagues of Amity

subsisting

subsisting between Us and the said Nations of Indians, and to make them the Presents that have been provided for them by the Governor and Assembly of Our said Province of Pennsylvania; And farther, to do, act, transact and finally to conclude and agree with the Indians aforesaid all and every other Matter and Thing which to You shall appear necessary for the engaging them heartily in our Interest, and for frustrating any Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from it, as fully and amply to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes as Our Governor of Our Province of Pensylvania aforesaid might or could do being Personally present: Hereby ratifying, confirming.... and holding for form and effectual, whatsoever You the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin or any of You shall Lawfully do in and about the Premises In Testimony whereof We have caused the Great Seal of Our said Province to be hereunto affixed Witness James Hamilton Esquire (by Vertue of a Commission from Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esquires true and absolute Proprietaries of the said Province and with Our Royal Approbation) Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province aforesaid and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex upon Delaware at Philadelphia the Thirtieth Day of May in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Four and in the Twenty Seventh Year of Our Reign. —

The Governor wrote the following Letter and sent it by the Commissioners to Mr. De Lancey.

Philadelphia June 2d. 1754.

Sir,

In obedience to his Majesties Order I now send Commissioners to the Interview which the King has been pleased to direct You to hold with the Six Nations at Albany, for the Purposes set forth in the Letter from the Lords of Trade. The Gentlemen I have nominated are Mr Penn, Mr Peters, Mr. Norris and Mr Franklin, the Two first are of the Council here, the Others of the Assembly, of which Mr Norris is Speaker. I am in hopes they will be found to answer in every Respect the Character their Lordships have pointed out to Us in the Choice of Commissioners, and by a candid and ingenuous Behaviour entitle themselves to your particular Notice and Civilities, to which I beg Leave to recommend them.

It would have given me the greatest Satisfaction, could I have sent these Gentlemen to You under Instructions agreable to your own Plan, which I am convinced is extremely well calculated for his Majesties Service and the Interest and Security of these Colonies, and this I have not failed frequently to represent to the leading Men of our Assembly in private as well as to the whole in Publick. But from the particular Views of some and the Ignorance and Jealousy of Others I have not been able to obtain from them any specific Powers or Advices in relation to this Affair; and have therefore been obliged to content myself with giving them a general Commission to renew the Covenant Chain with the Six Nations, and to frustrate as much as lies in their Power any Attempts that have been made to..... withdraw them from the British Interest. I am in hopes nevertheless with You, that upon a full and free Discussion of the State of the Colonies at the Treaty, something of general Utility may be agreed upon, or, that a candid Representation of our Condition may be made to his Majesty, and his Interposition implored for our Protection; since unless some proper Measures be speedily taken, I can see nothing to prevent this very fine Province, owing to the Absurdity of the Constitution and the Principles of the governing Part of its Inhabitants, from being an easy Prey to the Attempts of the Common Enemy.

Our Assembly after having met three several Times to deliberate on the Subject of the Expedition to Ohio, at length presented me a Bill for granting to his Majesty an Aid of Ten Thousand Pounds, and entrusted me with the Disposal of it; and I pleased myself

with

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Commission to hold a treaty with the Six Nations, in Albany. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. M, PP. 331-333.

with the hopes of being able to employ it in such manner as might have been serviceable to the general Interest as well as to our own Safety; but on Perusal of the Bill, I found it so crouded with advantages to themselves, and so entirely calculated to render them independant of the Governor for a long Term of Time, that I could not consistent with my Honour or the Trust reposed in me give my Assent to it: and as, notwithstanding all I could say to them, they continued obstinately to adhere to the Bill, I was to my great Mortification obliged to reject it, so that Mr. Dinwiddie is not like to receive any Assistance from Us for this Year. Hence I am enclined to think they were more concerned to save Appearances in regard to what his Majesty had been pleased to recommend to them, than to consult either the Kings Interest or the Safety of the Province; and further, that the Progress of the French in possessing themselves of his Majesties Lands will never be effectually opposed but by means of an Act of Parliament, compelling the Colonies to contribute their respective Quotas for that Service independant of Assemblies, some of which in this Part of the World are either so ignorant as not to foresee Danger at the smallest distance, or so obstinate as to pay no Regard to it but upon Terms incompatible with all Government.

I have agreable to your Desire sent Mr Weiser with the Commissioners, and directed him to do You all the Services in his Power which he professes most willingly to do, and only requests that He may not be made Use of as a principal Interpreter, inasmuch as from a Disuse of the Language He is no longer Master of that Fluency he formerly had, and finding himself at a Loss for proper Terms to express himself is frequently obliged to make Use of Circumlocution, which would picque his Pride in the View of so considerable an Audience. He says he understands the Language perfectly when he hears it spoken, and will at all Times attend and use his Endeavour that whatever is said by the Indians be truly interpreted to the Gentlemen; and in this Respect I really think You may securely rely on his good Sense and Integrity.

I beg Leave to acquaint You, that the Proprietor has been for some time past desirous of giving Encouragement to People for the Settlement of his Frontiers, but for Want of an Indian Purchase has not been able to do it. I have therefore directed Mr Penn and Mr Peters, when other Business will permit, to make Use of the Opportunity of sounding the Indians upon that Subject, to which should they seem enclined, You will confer a particular Obligation both on the Proprietors and me by assisting with your good Offices.

I have only to wish You a pleasant Journey to Albany, and an happy and successful Issue to your Negotiations, and to assure You that I am

Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant

James Hamilton.

Governor De Lancey.

MEMORANDUM.

On the Thirtieth Day of May the Governor sign'd the following Commission for John Penn, Richard Peters, Benjamin Franklin, and Isaac Norris, Esquires, to hold a Treaty with the Six United Nations of Indians at Albany in Conjunction with the Lieutenant Governor of New York and the Commissioners of the other Governments:

[L. S.] "*George the Second, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, To Our Trusty and well-beloved John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, of the City of Philadelphia, Esquires, Greeting:*

"*Whereas*, the Honourable James De Lancy, Esquire, Our Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our Province of New York, has received Our Directions to hold an Interview with our loving and good Allies the Six United Nations of Indians at the City of Albany within Our said Province for delivering to them Our Presents and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and has fixed upon the Fourteenth Day of June ensuing for this Purpose; and it has been usual when an Interview has been held with these Indians for all his Majestie's Colonies whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them to join in such an Interview, and it appears to us that the present Disposition of those Indians, and the attempts which have been made to withdraw them from our Interest do make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this Time, when the Subjects of the French King have actually marched into and erected Forts and committed Hostilities within the known Limits of our Dominions; *Know Ye*, that Reposing Special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Abilities, and Prudence, We have thought fit to nominate and appoint You, the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, and Every of You, our Commissioners on Behalf of Our Governor of our Province of Pennsylvania aforesaid, in Conjunction with Our Lieutenant Governor of New York and with the Commissioners of the other Governments, to treat with the said Six United Nations of Indians at Albany, or with their or any or every of their Chiefs of Delegates, and with them to renew, ratify, and confirm the Leagues of Amity subsisting between Us and the said Nations of Indians, and to make them the Presents that have been provided for them by the Governor and Assembly of Our said Province of Pennsylvania; and further, to do, act, transact, and finally to conclude and agree with the Indians aforesaid all and every other Matter and Thing which to You shall appear necessary for the engaging them heartily in our Interest, and for frustrating any Attempts which have been made to withdraw them from it, as

fully and amply to all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes, as Our Governor of Our Province of Pennsylvania aforesaid might or could do being Personally present: Hereby ratifying, confirming, and holding for firm and effectual whatsoever You the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, or any of You, shall lawfully do in and about the Premises. *In Testimony whereof* We have caused the Great Seal of Our said Province to be hereunto affixed. *Witness*, JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire (by Vertue of a Commission from Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries of the said Province, and with Our Royal Approbation), Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province aforesaid, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware, at Philadelphia the Thirtieth Day of May, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-four, and in the Twenty-Seventh Year of Our Reign."

The Governor wrote the following Letter and sent it by the Commissioners to Mr. De Lancy:

"PHILADELPHIA, June 2d, 1754.

"Sir:

"In obedience to his Majestie's Order I now send Commissioners to the Interview which the King has been pleased to direct You to hold with the Six Nations at Albany for the Purposes set forth in the Letter from the Lords of Trade. The Gentlemen I have nominated are Mr. Penn, Mr. Peters, Mr. Norris, and Mr. Franklin; the Two first are of the Council here, the others of the Assembly, of which Mr. Norris is Speaker. I am in hopes they will be found to answer in every Respect the Character their Lordships have pointed out to us in the Choice of Commissioners, and by a candid and ingenious Behaviour entitle themselves to your particular Notice and Civilities, to which I beg leave to recommend them.

"It would have given me the greatest Satisfaction could I have sent these Gentlemen to you under Instructions agreable to your own Plan, which I am convinced is extremely well calculated for his Majestie's Service and the Interest and Security of these Colonies, and this I have not failed frequently to represent to the leading Men of our Assembly in private as well as to the whole in Publick. But from the particular Views of Some and the Ignorance and Jealousy of Others, I have not been able to obtain from them any specific Powers or Advices in relation to this Affair; and have, therefore, been obliged to content myself with giving them a general Commission to renew the Covenant Chain with the Six Nations, and to frustrate as much as lies in their Power any Attempts that have been made to withdraw them from the British Interest. I am in hopes, nevertheless, with you, that upon a full and free Discussion of the State of the Colonies at the Treaty,

something of general Utility may be agreed upon, or that a candid Representation of our Condition may be made to his Majesty, and his Interposition implored for our Protection; since unless some proper Measures be speedily taken, I can see nothing to prevent this very fine Province, owing to the Absurdity of its Constitution and the Principles of the governing Parts of its Inhabitants, from being an easy Prey to the Attempts of the Common Enemy.

"Our Assembly after having met three several Times to deliberate on the Subject of the Expedition to Ohio, at length presented me a Bill for granting to his Majesty an Aid of Ten Thousand Pounds and entrusted me with the Disposal of it, and I pleased myself with the hopes of being able to employ it in such manner as might have been servicable to the general Interest as well as to our own Safety; but on Perusal of the Bill I found it so crowded with advantages to themselves and so entirely calculated to render them independant of the Governor for a Long Term of Time, that I could not consistent with my Honour or the Trust reposed in me give my assent to it; and as, notwithstanding all I could say to them, they continued obstinately to adhere to the Bill, I was to my great Mortification obliged to reject it, so that Mr. Dinwiddie is not like to receive any Assistance from Us for this Year. Hence I am inclined to think they were more concerned to save Appearances in regard to what his Majesty had been pleased to recommend to them than to consult either the King's Interest or the Safety of the Province; and further, that the Progress of the French in possessing themselves of his Majestie's Lands will never be effectually opposed but by means of an act of Parliament compelling the Colonies to contribute their respective Quotas for that Service independant of Assemblies, some of which in this Part of the World are either so ignorant as not to foresee Danger at the smallest distance, or so obstinate as to pay no Regard to it but upon Terms incompatible with all Government.

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Settlement of his Frontiers, but for Want of an Indian Purchase has not been able to do it. I have, therefore, directed Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters, when other Business will permit, to make Use of the Opportunity of sounding the Indians upon that Subject, to which should they seem enclined You will confer a particular Obligation both on the Proprietors and me by assisting with your good offices.

"I have only to wish You a pleasant Journey to Albany, and an happy and successful Issue to your Negociations, and to assure You that I am,

Sir, You most obedient and most humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"Governor De Lancey."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday, 20th July, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,
William Till,
Joseph Turner,
} Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board the following Letter and Intelligence received by Express from Col. James Innes of Virginia, containing an Account of the Defeat of the English Forces under the Command of Col. Washington, by a Body of French Troops commanded by Monsieur De Villier, at a Place called the Great Flats or Meadows, about Forty Miles on this Side the River Ohio, with other Advices of great Importance to his Majestie's Service, and informed the Council that he thought it absolutely necessary to convene the Assembly before the Time to which they now stand adjourned; and the Council concurring with his Honour in this Opinion, Writs issued for their Meeting on Tuesday the Sixth day of August next.

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Col. Innes.

"Honour'd Sir:

"Having Notice of a Person going to your Province immediately, I thought it proper on this Occasion to give You a short Detail of what has lately happened.

"After having regulated the March and the Transportation of the North Carolina Regiments, I immediately proceeded to Wil-

have A boutt two hundred pounds worth of Provisions Now half way to Ohio, where they will Stay till I go up. I Can Dispose of them to ye Virginia forsess, Butt if y^r honour Should have ocation of them for ye use of this governmen^t, I will Nott Ingage to Virginia, besides I have bought £300 worth more in ye Contrey, y^t flower a' 9 ℔ hundred, which y^r honour may have, only paying me for ye Caridge out.

I am y^r honours most humble
and most obedient Servant,
GEO. CROGHAN.

Indorsed.
14th May. 1754. Geo. Croghan

Diary of Journey of Com'rs to Albany, 1754.

Begun Monday, the 3^d June, 1754.

June.

M. 3. Dined at Bristol . . . Sup'd at Trentown.

T. 4. Baited at Kingstown, rain'd ye greatest p'rt of the forenon; din'd at Brunswick; Tea at M^rs. Curstegans. Visited A. White. Thunder & Rain.

W. 5. Baited at Woodstock. Din'd at Staten Island Point. Watsons left the Horses there. Cross'd ye Bay in an hour & Quarter; went to Scotch John's, Waited on ye Govr at M^r. Watt's; went to Coffee ho' & tavern at Night. Willets lodged wth Jurs.

T. 6. Peter Livingston, M^r. Norris, M^r. Penn, M^r. Weiser, myself & M^r. Loxling my Lt. D. fix'd on the Lists of Indian Goods. Din'd wth ye Govr at Willet's; Govr in Conversation proposed maintaining ye Indians one day at New York, another Pennsylvania, &c. Night at M^r. Walton's.

F. M^r. Tasker, M^r. Barnes & self went to Peter Livingston's; left ye Indian presents for Maryland wth Conrad Weiser. Dined at Phil Livingston's; went to M^r. Wells's Country house, wth M^r. Walton, there we drank Cydar. Sup'd at M^r. Barclay's wth D^r. Johnson; Conversation on Indians. Govr set off at 11 o'clock home.

S. Went to Marlots; dined at M^r. Walton's. Sup'd at Willet's

S. At 7 went on Board Albany Sloop, Egbert Egbert. Wind N. E., made about 4 miles; made upon ye sloop Delancy in Company wth Maryland Sloop. M. Jacks, M^r. Barnes, M^r. Horn, M^r. Ridout.

M. Head Wind; came to anchor near Philepses.
T. Head Wind; came to anchor near
W. Head Wind; came to anchor near

Indorsed.
Diary to Albany, 1754.

Capitulation of Fort Necessity, 1754.

Capitulation granted by Mons. DeVillier, Cap. and Commander of Infantry and Troops of His Most Christian Majesty, to those English Troops actually in the Fort of Necessity, wch was built on the Lands of the King's Dominions, July the 3d at 8 o'Clock at Night, 1754.

As our Intentions has never been to trouble the Peace and good Harmony wch reigns between the two Princes in Amity, but only to revenge the Assasination wch has been done on one of our Officers bearer of a Sitation as appears by his Writing, as also to hinder any Establishment on the Lands of the Dominions of the King my Master, upon these Considerations: we are willing to grant Protection or Favour to all the English that are in the Said Fort, upon the Conditions herafter mentioned.

Article 1st.

We grant the English Commander to retire wth all his Garrison, and to return peaceably into his own country, and promise to hinder his receiving any Insult from us French, and to restrain as much as shall be in our Power the Savages that are w us.

2dly.

It shall be permitted him to go out, and carry wth him all that belongs to them except the Artillery wch we keep.

3dly.

That we will allow them the Honours of War, that they march out Drums beating, wth a Swivell Gun, being willing to shew them that we treat them as Friends.

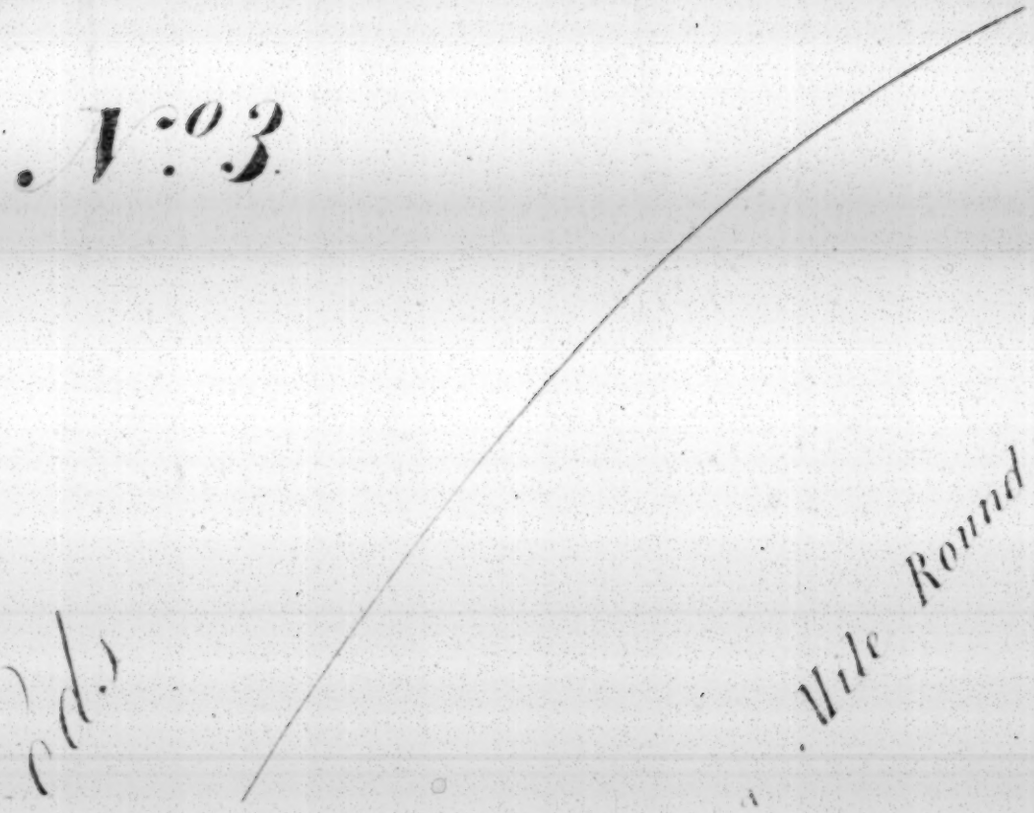
4thly.

That as soon as the Articles are Signed by the one Part and the other, they strike the English Colours.

5thly.

That to-morrow at Break of Day, a Detachment of French shall go to make the Garrison file off, and take possession of the Fort.

No. 103.



T H E O D O R E A T K I N S O N.

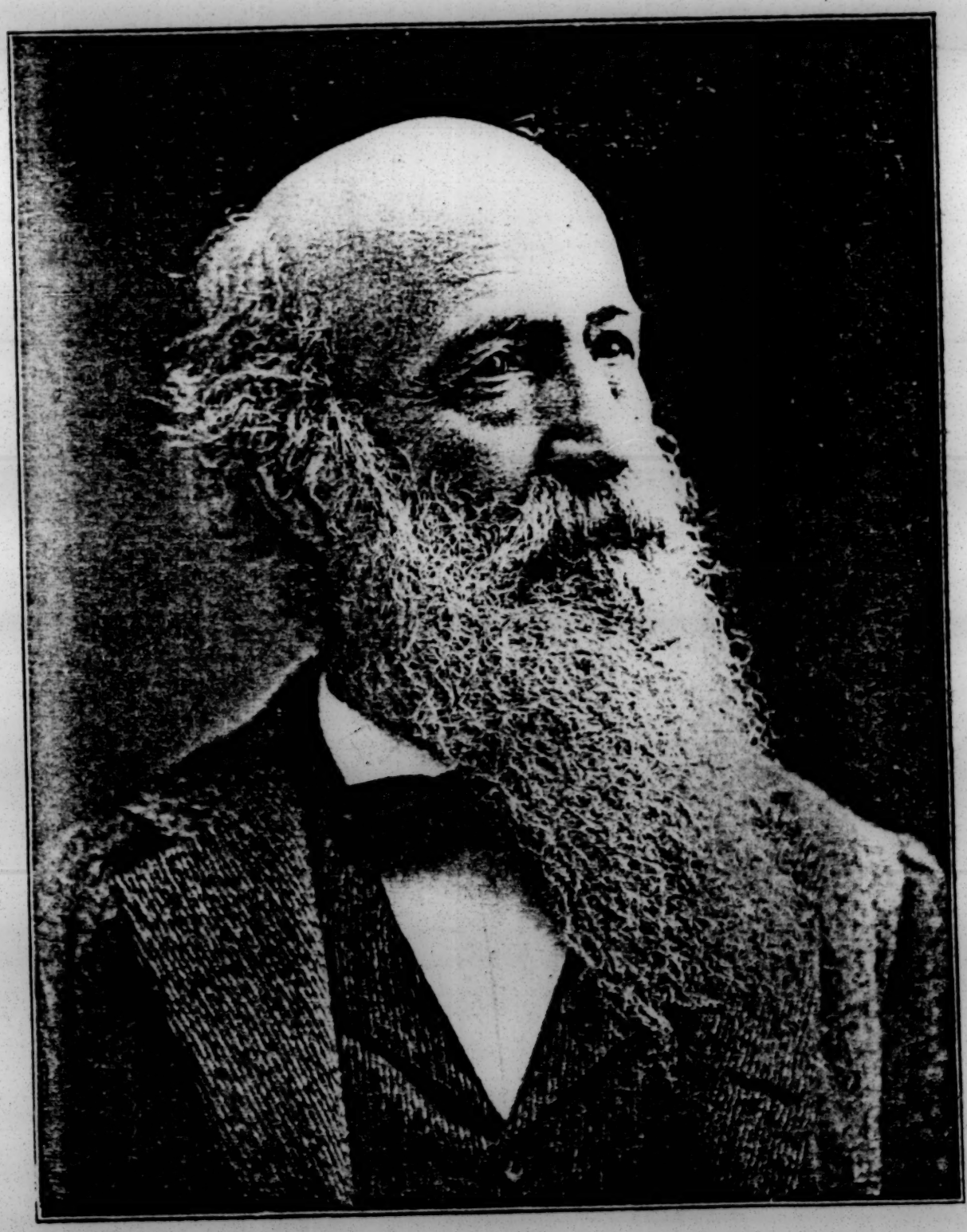
Memo Book of my journey as one of the Comissioners on Treaty with the Six nations of Indians.

1754.

As a Commissioner from the Governor of New Hampshire to Canada.

Begun Jan. 15. Th. 1724-25.

Printed in full in the 1907 Register of the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New Hampshire. On file in the Historical Library.



George Augustus Gordon.
1827-1912.

This paper Annotated by Mr Gordon.
Genealogist of the N. H. Society of
Colonial Wars.

Memo Book of my journey as one of the Comissioners on Treaty with the Six nations of Indians Viz 1754

Monday June 3d Prepared for my Journey

4 Rained all Day Prevented our setting out

5 Wednesday Sot out about 8 Clock & reach Coll Wears at 11 Dined with him & sot out for haverhill reached at Sun Set ~~Stope~~ Baled at Barnassd in Almsbury fine day & no accidents material

6 ford Cross Merrimack to Bradfd rode to Andover Breakfasted at Abbots - Pursued our journey to Woborne Dined at Fowky's got to Cambridge at 5 o Clock met Theodore & his Class on the Comon Lodged at the Presidents the wind being Easterly took a very bad cold very hot till 3 o Clock & feverish — it showerd all night

7 Dined at Mr Vassells & I was far from being well but it Cleard up the wind East wrote Mrs Atkinson we travelld 14 to Sudbury Lodged at Boldens a good house where we arrived about Sun Set & just got in before a shower

8 Mounted early rode 11 or 12 miles to Marleborough Breakfasted at Coll Williams Tavern & good house from thence

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thro parte of Westburrough & Parte of South Burrough to
Eagers at Shrewsburry 12 miles good house from thence
to Worcester about 4 miles Put up at Stearn's a good house
9 Sunday went to Church both partes of the Day heard Mr McCartney
& Mr Wibird
after Church drank Tea &c at Mr John Chandler jun
wrote a few lines to Mrs Atkinson & Left it with the Land lord
to forward to Mr Dering at Boston
10 Monday mounted about 6 rode 15 miles bad rockey hilly road
to Harringtons at Spencer Baited our Horses & mounted at 10
rode thro Brookfield to Weston & Dined Cattlers a good house
& Pritty good road but hilly after Diner Pursued our
Journey thro Brimfield & Palmer heretofore calld Kings-
town which Towns are Divided by a small river whose meanders
we crosed often & of course often in Each Town we rode about
10 miles to Scotts where we Lodged & was Pritty well Enter-
raind - the Weather fair all Day but an Excessive Strong
Easterly wind & cool it rained Some Showers in the night
11 Mounted Early and rode to Springfield which was abt 15 miles
about 1/2 way it began to rain & continued all Day with out
Ceaseing & very hard we were not wet thro our Cloths here
we Determined to go the Lower road conversed with Coll
Worthington one of the Comissioners from Massa it Cleard up

in the night & ye Wind West

A Large Town divided into 5 Parishes the Land not good Except near the [ ] & far from being well Improved Lodged at Whily[?]

12 Wednesday Mounted about 7 o Clock ferryd Part of our Company & Chain about 2 miles below the Town the other part kept on the East side & rode thro the Long meadow to Endfield about 10 miles baled at Olmsted - mounted again & rode on the Same Side of the river abt 10 miles to Winsor - Visited the Late Governr Mr Wilcot - Crossd the ferry near his house & Dined at fylers this is a Larg Town that Lays on both sides of the River & Shew some thing better Husbandry After dinner rode to Hartford a Town Pritty well Improved & many good building some Brick & the wooden ones well Painted Two Desenting meeting houses Well built & Painted & a State House built with wood all in one street Lodged at Flaggs fine fair weather & ye Wind at West

13 Thursday mounted abt Seven Clock & road 10 miles to farmington to Lewis's many fine farms & good Prospects the road hilly and no other difficulty Little wind Westerly & hot mounted again road 10 miles Very hilly & rockey almost Impasable Still in farmington Stopt at Lavusas rode 7 mile without a stoup Dined & rode Lytchfield Still much more Hilly & rocky but the roads better Cleard Lodged at Majr Muses the whole of the Country we Passed the Day very good Land & the

Tops of the hills Springy & very good grass Land & near
Lytchfield well Improved in Spotts - fair & Wind Westerly
14 ffriday Mounted at 7 rode thro an Exceeding Bad road 6 1/2
miles to one Nashes at Gostan Stoped the Land very good
& Some farmes well Improved - from thence to Setchwicks at
Easterly Corner of Cornwall abt 6 1/2 miles Stopd & Dined
a Good house for Entertainment our Course now little to the
Westward of North Still fine Land but few Improvements
in houses those that are Improved are very well from Sedwicks
we rode thro Canaan to Salisbury the rode Some thing better
in the way we had a Thunder Shower but being near a House
Shrowded our Selves without being wett & then Put forward
to Salisbury in our way was wet by a Continued rain our
Comp Parted Some went to the Tavern I Lodged at one Moores
a Private house it Cleared up & Wind West
15 Saturday We mounted abt Seven rode thro parte of the
Oblong & into Levingstons Manner to Ancrum where the Iron
works are about 12 1/2 miles baited there at the Charge of
Mr Levingston who suffers no body to Pay any thing mounted
again at 11 & rode about 9 or 10 miles still in the Manner
to one Churches where we Dined after Diner rode up 10 miles
to Cloverick to Capt Holoboge's & Lodge very well & good

Entertainment here we found wine being the first on the road this House &c in ye Patroons Land begins were the Manner of Levingstons Ends Westerly fair

16 Sunday being behind in time were necessitated to Travell Sot out about 7 rode 14 miles to Kenderhook Stoped & Baited at Quockingbush's near the Church Visited Mrs Vanscorts who Entertaind us very Hospitabley & Dined - Set out for Albany, [sic] missd our way, was Blundered in the woods, an hour or more but at Last found the right road near the halfway house So Called where we found Coll Wendal who had also missed his way & had just arived before us; we refreshed our Selves & rode down to the ferry at Albany where we arived about Sun set We ~~rode~~ Esteemed its 24 from Kenderhook to the ferry we Lodged at Lumnas's - only Coll Wendal Crossd the ferry the rest Lodged on the East side

Mond: 17 Coll Wendal haveing Engaged Lodging in the Cyty for us we Crossd the ferry in the morning & went Directly to our Lodgings at one Lausing's Lt Govr D Lancey Sent to Invite us to Dine with him wh we Did near Twenty Gentlemen Dined there a handsom Entertainmt good wine & Arran[?] Punch after Dinner we Traversed the Town & returnd to our Lodgings ye Govr & Several Gentlemen Calld on us I was Prevented Sleeping by the tooth Ach or Ague in my face which was

Extream Painfull

Tuesday 18 The Connecticut Comissioners who was the only ones that Dined with us yesterday Visited us & Desired to see the Letter from the board of Trade to Govr Wentworth on the affairs of the Interview Shew it them & gave them a Copy of it I could not go out this Day by reason of the Pain in my face we Dined at home & after Dinner recd a Visit from the Philadelphia Comissioners the Govr sent us word he Proposed a Conferrence or meeting of the Comissioners from ye Several Governments & Desired we would attend at the Council Hall at 11 o Clock on that affair the Govr told us yesterday at Dinner that he had recd a Letter from the Interpreter that has the Conducting the Indians to Town that they had Spent a Day or Two in Condoling the Loss of a Sachem & Expected another Day to be spent on the same occas-ion when they got to the Next Tribe So that they Should not be in Town before Wednesday or Thursday the Pain in my face so Extream I got no sleep till Day & then very little refreshed by it

Wednesday 19 my face raged So almost all night that I got Little or no Sleep the whole night about 10 o Clock We re-turnd our Visit to the Comissioners of Connecticut & Pensil-vania & went With them other Comsrs to Town Hall were wee found the Leut Governr and 4 of the N York Council after

7

Produceing our Several Comissns which the Govr ordred the Deputy Secry to read they were Delivered us again & a Copy Left the Governr that Read a Paragraph of his Majy Instructcons relating to this Interview & Said that as it was to Publick an all the Government Equally concerned He thot it might be advisable for the Comissioners to meet Previous to the Indians attendance & Consult & Conclude upon what he Should say to them that the Sery of the Province & the Comissrs for Indian affairs should give us their Attendence when required & Lay before us-any former Treaty or give any Information they could the Perticular Indiom or Diction might be left as they were very Peculiar to those that Should delivr[?] the Same to the Indians &c there was Some Inquiry weither any body was Comissionated from N York but none was & Concluded if the Govr Would be Present at every Consultation there would need none but if other wise a Comission would be necessary In reading the Several Comissions I observed that most of them began with the Stile of the Governr not the King Philadephia & ours only with the regal Stile and worded almost Exactly alike we had no Dispute abt Superiority but was by the Govr Desired to walk in & take Place as we thot Proper there was a Baily Seet that the Sery Set in & 2 rows of Seets under it & from Each End which with a Seet In the front Enclosed a Large Table the Govr & his Council Sat in the middle

at the Table Massa & New Hampr opposite Philadelphia road Island & Maryland at one End Connecticut at the other we adjourned till 5 o Clock P M and order was given to have the Table removed in order that we might be all accomodated in Setting round it without being behind each other Accordingly about 5 o Clock the Comissioners met again & Was Entertained by Mr Wells of Boston with an accot of the Vast Expence that Governmt has been at & yet how willing they Still were & as here mentioned the Expedition now carrying building forts &c at Kennybeck Mr Peters from Pensilvania gave us a History of the Procedure of that Government with the Indians above them their Traders being Captivated & as these two narrations took up far greatest Parte of the after noon So that nothing was done Except the Nomination of one Comissioner from Each Governmt to Calculate & Draw up a Speech to be made to the Indians at opening the Interview with the Indians which were ~~Mr Wells~~ Mesrs Tasker - Maryland Moris Philadelphia Johnson York Williams Connecticut Howard Road Island - Wells Boston Atkinson N Hamp Thunder & rain abt one o Clock

20 Thursday This Day was Chiefly Spent in calculating the Speech to be made to the Indians by Lt Govr in the Name of his Majty at the Desire of the Severall Governments as yet but few of the Indians got in about 20 - Winde South & Some Sprinkling Showers & very hot

ffryday 21 The Comissioners met at the Town Hall & the Committee appointed to make a Draft of the Speach to the 6 nations acquainted the Comissionrs that they were ready to make their report & the Comissioners & it was thot Proper to Acquaint His Honr the Lt Govr thereof before the Same was read at the board accordingly Mesrs Atkinson & [ ] were appointed by the Comissioners to wait upon his Honr to acquaint him that the Comittee were ready to report &c ~~His Hon~~ which being don his Honr asked if the Comissioners Expected or Desired[?] he Should be Present they answered they Imagined that the message was Intended ~~if~~ he Should be Present if He thot Proper He Accordingly went to the Town Hall took his Seat & the report was read Some aditions being Proposed & the Indians not arived it was ordred to Lay till the afternoon . here arose the motion about ~~Placeing~~ the Seats of the Comissioners were to take at the Interview and after Several Propositions as that those Governments that had been Layst in attending the Treaty heretofore those that been at the Largest Expence &c The Kings Goverrmt before the Charter Govts &c but at Last it was upon a motion of his Honr (Determined that the Comissioners Should take Place according to the Situation of ye respective Goverrmts begining either at the North or South finally it was Determed to begin at the North New Hamp

then Claimed the first seat but as the County of York was mo notherly the Massa took Place this being the forenoons work the Comissioners adjourned till after noon The N H C. went to the flatts & Dined with Coll Schuyler & returned in the evening nothing was Transacted by the Comissrs Several thunder Showers this afternoon the wind Southerly

Saturday 22d had a Visit from the Massa Connecticut & road Island to aqt us with what Passd in the afternoon yesterday in our absence & to Consult about appointing a Clerk &ca then we went to the Town Hall Canvassed the Speach as the Comittee has Drafted it Some objections arose Concerning Chiefly that it ought to be General & only Salutary & that if any one Perticular that related to one governmt only was Contained in it that every thing that Each Govern had to Say to the Indians Should be also Incerted[?]this being the minde of the Comissioners Mesrs Huchenson Mr Peters & Coll Johnson was Desired to alter the Speach agreable to the minde of the Comissioners as Declared which being Don it was again read & approved of & then the Sd Gentlemen were Desired to wait upon the L Gov Shew it him for his approbation then adjourned till Monday now about 200 Indians arrived Several hard Showers with Thunder both fore noon and After noon by Invitations we Dine with Coll Couyler after Diner went up the hill on the Back of the Town to View the Indians &c it Clear

up & the Wind about North West

Sunday 23d The wind got in the night at North East & raind al-
most all night went to Church in ye forenoon heard Mr Peters -
in the afternoon Mr Ogleby - in the Evening Mr William a Min-
ister from Connecticut who Preach in the Duch Church Dine
this Day with the Governour the Merriland Comissioners also
Dined with his Honr the wind continued North Easterly &
rain'd the whole Day

24th Monday it rained all night & ~~till~~ this morning went to the
Town Hall where the Comisrs met a motion was made for the
nominating a Clerk & many others and among which was one -
wether the Council of York ought to Set or not without a Com-
ission &c this Spent the Greatest part of the forenoon &
nothing finally don Except a nomination of Mr Raxwell as
Clerk Col Worthington & Mr Howard to acquaint his Honr that the
Comssrs were met &c his Honr told Them he could not Pos-
sibly attend being So Surrounded with the Indians then adjd
till 3 o Clock P M the Lt Govr met the Comissioners at
the Town Hall & acquainted them that Mr Raxwell was Sworne as
Clerk accordingly was ordred to hold Such Minits of the Com-
issioners attendance & Transactions as Should be given him
by the Deputy Secry who had acted as Clerk & to Enter them
regularly in a Book by themselves &c & to revise also the

Copys of the Several Comissions &ca & fill them regularly this being Don a motion was made wether the building two forts for the Safety of the Six nations was not necessary ~~which~~ the consideration of which was Defered till Some steps might be taken to Effect a Union of the Several Provinces & Collonies in America & a motion being at the Same time made that a Comittee might be appointed by the Commissioners to Draft a Plan for such a union Mr Hutchenson[?] Atkinson, Hopkins, Pinkney Smith Franklin, Tasker, were appointed to Draft a Plan & Present it with all Imaginable speed Then adjd till tomorrow 11 o Clock A M

Tuesday 25 Met at the Town Hall and the Comittee ~~being not~~ not haveing a report ready or Plan for the union of the Provinces aforesd Nothing was don but adjd till 5 0 Clock P M when his Honr Sent to the Commissioners the Speach ~~made~~ calculated by the Comissrs altered in some Places with which the Comissrs agreed except one article relating to the Indians of the Oneidas Intercepting the Albany Traders - Insisting upon the Benefit of Carrying the Traders goods cross the Carrying place exacting great freight &ca which being a Perticular thing that related to N York only was heretofore & now objected to till all the Governments that had any thing to say to them should likewise have an oppertunity & Mr Peters &

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Mr Hutchenson appointed to wait upon his Honr to acquaint him thereof The rain that fell on Sunday &ca cause such a flood that water Encreased near about 14 foot in Perpindicular swelld over the Banks of the river Drowned all the Corn & Grain &ca on the Intervale[?] Came into the Cyty & was in Some Places even with the Top of the Pallosaides Drove near a Dozen sloops from their moorings & Carryd Down Stream eleven miles from Scenactada only till the river with rubbish & floted of many Piles of boards

Wednesday 26 Wrote Mrs Atkinson Mr Mcgregore[?] & the Indians not being ready to receive the Speech the upper C$_a$stle of Mohawks not being yet come in & the Comittee of Union haveing not yet made their report We rode out to View the Cohoos about 10 or 12 miles returnd in the afternoon Wind Southerly & Very Hot the Corn & Grain not So much Damaged as was Imagined the river fallen about Six feet ~~Wind S~~ & hot

Thursday 27th Met the Comissioners at the Town Hall Settled our minits in the Journal & had the Speach to be made to the Indians returned from the Governr with his alterations & our re alterations &ca read & unanimously agreed upon & Voted and Calculated and aditional Paragraph which was left to the Governr to be Inserted or not as he Should think Proper

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which was to tell them that the Comissioners & Sundry[?] Tribes of Indians had been waiting near 14 Days to ~~Speak~~ open the Congress & hoped the would be more Punctual for the future - this was on Accot of Hindrich & the Cononjoro Indians not comeing in &ca rainy wether all day

ffryday 28th Hindrich & the Indians of the Tribe arrived was thot best to make the Speach on the morrow to which the Lt Governr consented the Comittee Appointed for Drafting a Plan for a Union of the Governmt &ca Exhibited the Draft which was read a first and Secd time & then directed that Each Colloney be served with a Copy for their Perusal & Consideration this took up the Greatest Part of the Day fair wether Wind South

Saturday June 29 The Comissioners met as usual Debated upon the Draft of the Scheme for a Union & Proposed & Voted (which had before been talked of) the Printing a Sermon Preached by Mr Peters at the Church on Sunday Last about 11 o Clock the Governr acquainted us that the Indians were ready to hear what we has to Say to them we accordingly went to the Place appointed which was before the Govrs Door where were about 10 rows of boards, each row would hold abt 20 Indians opposite & between the Indians & the Govr House were Placed a row of Chairs the Lt Govr & Council of New York Seated in the Center

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at the Extream End on the right hand the Massa next N H then Connecticut then the Govr & Cn next on the Left hand road Island then Pensilvania & on the Extream Maryland the Govr read the Speach Paragraph by Paragraph which was Interpreted by the N York Interpreter at the Delivery of Each belt they Signifyed their understanding of Each Paragraph by a kind of universal Huzzah when the great or Chain belt was Dilvred on this occasion they Signifyed their understanding or Consent by such a Huzzah repeated seven times once for every Tribe thus finished the Speach the Indians made a Long Pause & then Hindrich rose & Repeted the Substance of Speach & said they would Consider of & answer it on Monday - The Comissioners met In the afternoon & it being mentioned that the Stockbridge or river Indians were in town & had no notice taken of them nor were invited ordred that Mr Wells & Mr Franklin wait on his Honr the Lt Govr to acquaint him of the Circumstances & Desire that they may have some Provisions &ca & that on Monday the Comissioners would Consider further of them adjd till Monday raind in the morning Cleard up about 10 o Clock Wind Southerly

Sunday 30th June Went to Church fornoon & after noon after which attendence at Church were the Mohawks were Calld to Prayers & the Service in their Language

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which was performed with the utmost Decency many of them had books & responded one of them Sot the Psalm & one other made or repeated a Long Prayer &ca Mr Ogleby Officiated as their Priest He Preached the afternoon Mr Peters the morning

Monday July 1 Attended the Comissrs in the Town Hall ~~Passed A Vote & Chose a Comittee to wait upon~~ The Comittee Appointed to Wait on the Governr in relation to the Stockbridge or river Indians made their report that his Honr thot it most Proper of those Indians to be Supported by the Massa as they Lived in that Governmt & were not sent for to this Treaty by him afterwards the Govr coming to Councill said he would give orders for their Support but thot it reasonable that the Comissioners should in some Proportion reimburse the Cost &ca the Comissioners reasumed the Debate report of the Comittee in relation to the Union of the several Collo & Debated thereon the remainder of the forenoon as they did also in the afternoon till Calld to hear the answer the Indians of the 6 nations had to make to the Speach made them on Saturday Last when we all Attended were the Indians being Placed as before they made their Answer in which they Expressed their heartyness in renewing all Covenants - Lade the fault to the English or rather N York Government whom they had no Interview for 3 years upbraded them with folly & Cowardise in neglecting their

fortifications in not takeing Crown point &ca burning their own forts at Sarratoga in Letting the fire go out at albany which they said Pointing to ye Albany Commissioners for Indian affairs and Extinguishing the fire at Coll Johnsons Castle whom they Love & he Loves them & gave a belt to Govr Clenton Desiring that all business between them & him might Pass thro Coll Johnsons hands but he the Govr was Gon & they Supposed the belt was Drowned for they had heard nothing of it since fair cool weather

Tuesday July 2d Debated again on the scheme for a Union and before the Comissioners broke up it was Put to Vote every Comissioner Present Viz weather they were then ready to Put the Question that has been so Long & often in Debate Viz weither an Act of Parliament was the only Expedient to obtain such a Union and it Past in affirmative to this Question all yeas Except Connecticut Then the sd Question was Put and this Past in the affermative 3 from Connecticut & 2 from Pensilvania did not Vote for it in the afternoon the Govr Sot with the Comissionrs when ye Indians Speach was read & Considered when a Comittee was Chosen to Calcule[?] something to say to the Indians in answer to what they had delivered in their Speach Yesterday

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Wednesday July 3d

We the Comtee. Delivered to ye Comissioners a Draft of a Speech to be made by the L^Govr to the Indians which was approved of & what his Honr Proposed to say to them in answer to what was Perticularly said about the Albany Comissrs for Indian affairs &ca being added and approved his Honr ordd the Indians to Attend at 6 o Clock this afternoon when being all seated as before the Speach was d^d them by the Interpreter as was also the News of Govr Shirleys[?] Eastern Voyage ~~H Hamp~~- Govr Wentworths sending to locate a fort at Connecticut Capt Oalney the family at Merrimack[?] the True State of the affair at Philadelphia & Virginia with relation to which the Indians said in their speach about opening Paths without their knowledge &ca all the Comissioners & many Gentlemen dined by Invitation from the Mare & Corporation of the this City in the Town Hall had a great Dinner & wine &ca enough broke up about 6 to speak to the Indians were very weary - fair Cool weather this Day

Thursday July 4th Attended at the Town Hall where the Comissioners again Debated on ~~the~~ Sundry Paragraphs of the Comittees report in relation to A Union of the Collonies agreed to several I think every Comissioner Except the Connecticut Gentlemen who thot there was too great a Power lodged in the President Genll but were still ready to assist in the main

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Designe in the afternoon the Governr sent us word that the Indians were ready to make their Last Speach in answer to what had been said to them we accordingly attended & this Speech Detained us till some time after Sunset They were then told ~~that~~ by the Governr that they must be ready to receive the Kings Present Early on the morrow accordingly we of N Hampr Imediatly retired & Concelled what & How to ~~Distribute~~ give what our Governmt had ordd to them This Day ~~Invited~~ the Comissrs from the several Collonies Invited the Governr & Council of York the Mare & Corporation & Gentlemen of Albany strangers &ca to Dine in the Town Hall on the morrow at 3 o Clock that we might have time to go thro the Comittees report for a Union ~~in~~ if Possible before Dinner - fair Cool Northerly Weather

Fryday July 5 Attendd the Comissionrs in the Town Hall Spent the forenoon on ye Comittees report about a Union of the Several Provinces Voted several of the Perticulars - In the Afternoon attended the Comittee & made a Draft of a report to Lay before them of the situation of our Country Especially with the regard to the Indians ye said Trade &ca his Honr this after noon also Delivered the Kings Present to the Indians which was a good asortment & a great Quantity among which were 400 good guns some extraordinary - in the Eving

Determined upon our Presant &ca

This Day the Comissioners joyned & Entertained the Govr & Council of York Mare ~~aldermen~~ & Corporation & officers & Gentlemen of the City at Diner in the Town Hall which Turned out well fair Weather & not too hot in the after noon ye Govr made a Speach to the river & Scatacook Indians

Saturday 6 Comissioners met as usual we waited for the Indians to come & receive our Present Mr Wibird & J Taryed for them [illegible] & Sher attended the Comissioners about 10 o Clock 2 Sachems of Each Tribe & some few others Attended & we made a short Speach to them as on file gave ~~them~~ the Present & their answer they gave us the name of Sosaguaxowane &ca See ye Speach & answer They told us to give them a Discription of our Province Which we did Hendrich said he had beer there then told us they Percieved We was upon business & Desired us not to wait on their accot &ca we left them with wine &ca & went to the Hall Debated several Things - the Govr Informd us that the river Indians would not speack with or have any thing to do with the Scatacook . So was forced to Divide the Present & Permit them to answer our Speach the Govr made them yesterday separately in their answer which the river Indians made the said something about their Land which was thot best to Deferr till Monday morning

& make them some answer to So they Did not receive their Present which was Parte of the things favr & a Contribution of the several Governments so this Day Concluded fair not uncomfortably hot

Sunday 7 Heard Mr Peters in the forenoon Mr Ogleby in the afternoon Dined at my Lodgings Drank Tea at the Mares Spent the evning at Home

Monday 8th We on Saturday at the 6 nations hint that the Expected some thing as a Treat when they united[?] & gave a Name &ca bespoke a Cow which this morning was brot us Early we sent for Hendrich acquainted him thereof he came & Liked her sent some young fellows Carryed her off & killd her in the Camp we went to the Town Hall settled the Speach Debated upon the union ~~and~~ report & the Comittee report upon the State of the English Colonies Indians Trade &ca in the afternoon the Govr Settled a Dispute with some of the Indians that was going off to Canada because they had no share of the Present made a Speach to the five nations took our Leave of them which took us till abt 8 Clock P M fare Weather & Pritty hot

Tuesday 9

finished the interview with the Scatecooke & River Indians

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gave them the Present from the King & the Comissioners & took our Leave of them went to the Town Hall & went thro the report of the Comtee on the affair of the Union Paragraph by Paragraph & Voted them Desired Mr ffranklin to reduce them to regularity Dined at Mr Beckmans a Young Gentleman Late out of his Time with Coll Wendall began to think of going home &ca repairing[?] therefrom in the afternoon read the report of the Comittee on the State of the Colonies &ca Paragraph by Paragraph made some Little alterations & then his Honr put to the Comissionrs & it passd to be Entred on the Journal of the Comissioners adjd about Sun Set till 9 o Clock to morrow this Day fair & Prity Hott not Imoderatly

Wednesday 10

Begun Early this morning set to settle all our accots in hope of getting over the ferry this afternoon but was Disapointed Detaind by the Governr & Comissioners which Sot all Day Consulting the report for an act of Parliament building forts in the Country &ca Severe Showers & hard Thunder Cleard up before night Wnd South got all our Papers Copyd Attended the Comittee at Coll Johnsons on the affair of Building forts came to a Conclusion of the Number Necessary for the frontiers of all the Colonies Sot till 12 Clock

Thursday 11

Attended the Comissioners & made our report relating to forts &ca Debated the same Passd several Votes Broke up the Treaty Dined & Crossed the ferry mounted & rode to Lodwichs the half way house so calld to Kenderhook baled our horses & mounted for Kenderhook reachd Vansliks at Kenderhook at night Lodged there 24 miles on our journey raind at night

ffryday 12 Mounted at 5 rode to Spurrs at Sheffild Town 20 miles a Town in dispute between N York & Massachusetts now well settled by Massa People Baled our horses not very good Entertainmt mounted & rode about 5 miles to Sheldons found good Pasture & good House Turnd out our horses & got some thing[?] to eat Tarryd from one till 4 o Clock mounted & rid thro the woods & Swam to Bevers 12 mile a good house for Horse & man & Lodged Pritty well Cloudy all Day Little wind

Saturday 13 Mounted Early 3/4 after 5 rode thro the Bad road 18 mile before 12 Clock got to Hustons at Glasco Dined & mounted before Three rode to Westfield Baled at 11 mile from Hustons - mounted again & rode 7 miles to Connecticut river at Springfield Crossed the river & Put up at Whites this Days journey near 40 miles 30 of which occasiond By

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mountains rocks Swamps &ca as bad as I ever rode exceeding Difficult & Dangerous Cyrus's Horse got his foot into a hole between the rocks & in great danger of Braking its Legg we were forced to go back to a Bridge & get Parte of the flooring to Pry out several Large stones before we could releive him - Cloudy in the morn but Clear & hot in the afternoon a few Drops of rain about Sun Seting & a fine rain bow -

Sabath 14 Rested at Springfield went to Church both parts of the Day heard Mr Williams of Long Meadow - Clear & hot

Monday 15 Mounted Early rode 15 mile to Scots at Palmer Broke fast there Tarryd about 2 hours then mounted & rode 10 Long miles to Cuttlers at Weston there Dined - (Mr Hutchinson overtook at Springfield Broakefasted with us at Scots & Left us & sot out for Boston in a hurry - we mounted & Rode about 12 mile to Cuttlers at Westown Dined well here I was very hot head ach & something of a Lax mounted after Dinner road abt 12 miles Harringtons at Spencer there found the family Down with the Itch but it Lookd like rain & began to Drop & too Late to Proceed further horse & man being too Pritty well fatigued we got Clean sheets & good beds that had not been Lain in Slept well .

25

Tuesday July 16 Sot out early Rode to Sterns[?] at Worcester Long 15 miles Wrote to Theodr by a young Candidate Brake-fasted there Showerd all this morning ~~got~~ mounted & rode Ben: Edgars at Shrewsbury & there Dined a very good House &ca it rained small rain waited till 4 o Clock rode to Coll Williams at Marleborogh raind hard & Put up Lodged very [well?] but slept little - Thundred hard & some Distance & Lightned much Clard up abt 10 & Very Clear

Wednesday 17th Mounted before 5 & rode eleven miles to Bald-wins at Sudbury Brakfasted, Shaved &ca mounted & arrived at Cambridge about 12 o Clock Saw my Son & heard of my wifes well fare Dined at the Presidents Spend the re-mainder of the Day very agreably at Comencement took my Son with me and mounted about Sun Set rode to Mistick Lodged at Turners on the East the Bridge fine Clear day

Thursday July 18 Mounted Early rode to 9 miles to Norwoods at Linn Broke fast & rode to Porters 9 mile at Danvers or Salem Vilage Baited & mounted at 11 rode to Ipswich Dinded badly, Late & Dearly - Tarryd till after five then mounted & rode to Newbury about or Little after Sun Set Lodged at Newalls

ffryday 19 Crossed the ferry before five in the morning & was mounted before Six Parted with Coll Weare at Hampton

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falls & rode to North Hampton Broke fast at Lovetts where we arived a Little after Eight from whence we Propose in about an hour to Mount for Portsmt wher I hope the same kind Providence that has attended us in & thro the whole of our journey will Conduct us in Safety to ye hapy Sight of all our friends at Portsmouth

Very foggy in the morning but now Clear

To his Excellency William Shirley Esqr
Governour in chief, the honourable the Council and
House of Representatives of his Majesty's Province of
Massachusetts bay.

The Report of the Commissioners appointed on the part
of the Government of the said Province, to meet with
Commissioners from his Majesty's other Governments
at the City of Albany, on the 15th of June 1754

Pursuant to the Commission & Instructions
which we had the honour to receive
we proceeded to Albany,
and there joined the Commissioners from the Governments
of New hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pensilvania,
& Maryland: His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of
New York was also present, as one of the Council
of that Province, but the said Council did not appear
as Commissioners, or shew any special Power to act in
behalf of that Government. Upon our first arrival
we laid our Commission before the s.d Governor, and
the Commissioners from the several Governments,
and afterwards we thought it convenient, accordingly
proceeded to produce all the Instructions which we had received
relative to the business of this meeting, that so the
ready & free disposition of this Province to come
into any reasonable measures for his Majesty's
service might more fully appear, & that no question
might be made whether, notwithstanding the
ample Powers given us by our Commission, we
were not limited or restrained by private Instructions
from the execution of them.

The Commissions from the other Governments were also
produced, but the Powers from divers of them appeared
to be very insufficient for the purposes which those
Commissioners conceived to be mainly intended
by this meeting.

The several Publick Conferences with the Indians held
by the Lieutenant Governour of New York in the
presence, & with the concurrence of the Commissioners
from

from the several Governments; as also a Representation of the present state of his Majesty's Colonies on the Continent with relation to the French & Indians, which was unanimously agreed to by the Commissioners; and a Plan of an Union of the Colonies, which was so far settled & agreed to by the Commissioners as that they ordered the same to be laid before their respective Constituents, and a copy thereof to be transmitted to each Government who did not send Commissioners; these are all contained in the Journal or Minutes of the proceedings of the Commissioners, an attested copy whereof is herewith presented. But there are divers matters not contained in this Journal and yet relative to our Commission, & of importance to his Majesty's service, & the Interest of his Colonies which we beg leave further to report.

The Commissioners from the several Governments were fully sensible that the Indians of the six Nations were in the utmost danger of being wholly lost to the English; that the defection was continually increasing, as also the french influence which was the cause of it, all which was evident by the smallness of the number of Indians that attended this Conference, although a very large Interest was expected, and by the free acknowledgment of those that did attend that great numbers were removed from their ancient Castles to the french Frontiers, & that others were kept back by french artifice and management; and those Indians who profess still to be in friendship with the English appeared to most of the Commissioners at had been present at former Treaties, to be much cooled in their affection to us; and indeed their ill disposition was evident not only from the air & manner of delivering their Publick Speeches, but from the expressions contained in them, and also as well as from the behaviour of some of the principal Indians in private conferences & discourse.

Besides the french influence which the Indians are
under, there likewise appears to be a great uneasiness
& dissatisfaction concerning the purchases of those
Lands, made or alledged to have been made by the
Inhabitants of New York; they complained of the want
of a due regulation of the Trade; & of the great neglect
& inattention of those to whom Indian affairs have
been committed
It appeared to the Commissioners by a Letter from the
Right honourable the Lords of Trade, communicated by
the Lt Governor of New York that this dissatisfaction
was one great cause of their ordering a meeting of
Commissioners from all the Governments, and that
it was therefore incumbent on the said Commissioners
publickly to have enquired into the grounds of this
dissatisfaction, in order effectually to have removed
the same; but his Honour the Lt Governor did not
apprehend it to be the intention of the said Letter
that Commissioners from other Governments should
make enquiry concerning Purchases made by the
Inhabitants of New York, & confirmed by the Governm
of that Province in his Majesty's name, and therefore
all the Conferences relative to this Complaint were
held between the Lt Governor & Council, and some of
the principal Indians of the Nations which were
dissatisfied; and all the Steps which the Commissioners
had was, after these conferences were over, upon
on a proposal from the Lt Governor, to send one
Gentleman of each Colony, in order to hear those
Indians declare that they were so far satisfied as
to be willing to suspend any further enquiry into
this Complaint for one year longer
It appeared probable to your Commissioners, that these purchases
have been transacted on the part of the Indians, by
artful designing men of their own nations who have taken what
consideration has been paid principally to themselves, and the body of the Nation remained either
unacquainted or dissatisfied therewith; and that
some of these Purchases have, by means, been
extended beyond the intention of the contracting
Indians

with the

Indians themselves: And your Commissioners cannot omit observing that the Purchase & grant of such vast Tracts or Countries of Land, as are comprehended in some of the Patents complained of, upon the frontiers of the British Colonies, can have no tendency to strengthen his Majesties Dominions, provided there be no obligation to speedy settlement, it not being very material whether the Title to this Country remains in the Native, or be transferred to particular persons Inhabitants of any Province, so long as the Lands remain uncultivated; and we are humbly of opinion that any quitrents, arising from such grants, can bear no proportion to the expence & charge, which are the necessary consequences of discontents, & uneasiness among the Indians, must tend to the final loss of them from the British Interest.

With respect to the Trade carried on between the English & Indians on the frontiers of Nova Scotia, your Commissioners found, upon enquiry, that, on the payment of twelve pence ℔ gallon duly to the Government by the English Traders, the Indians may be supplied with unlimited quantities of Rum at Oswego & other licensed Places on the said frontiers; that by this means they are almost continually drunk, and, at least, imagine that in their drink they have been abused & imposed upon in their trading. —

Your Commissioners think it necessary further to observe that a constant Trade is carried on in the City of Albany between the Inhabitants & the French Mohawks or Cagnawaga Indians, and that a great part of the Goods sold by the English go first to the French, and from them to the Indians; from which they are supplied at cheaper rates & to allow them higher prices for their Furrs than the French are able to do; and inasmuch as the securing, and more firmly attaching the Indians, is of absolutely greater importance than all the advantages of a private

private Trade, we are humbly of opinion that if the whole Indian trade was under the direction of some disinterested Body, or Company, and all private Trade restrained, and only a sufficient profit raised from such Trade by Duty to support the charge of carrying it on, in such case the French might be undersold, greater quantities of the English Manufactures consumed than ever at present, and the Indians made sensible that it is their Interest to forsake the French & become attached to the English.

It further appears to your Commissioners that the great sums which are from time to time expended in Presents, and the charges of Dealings with the Indians of the six Nations might be employed in a different manner to much greater advantage, for great part of these presents are always left in the City of Albany, being purchased from the Indians by the Inhabitants & Traders, and Rum, amongst other things, supplied in lieu thereof, and the remainder is soon expended or lost, & soon forgot and then for many months of the year the Indians think themselves wholly neglected & disregarded, whereas a much less sum distributed by faithful discreet persons constantly to reside among them, for the relief of any poor sick or otherwise necessitous families, agreeable to the Practice of the French, would be more likely to engage the affections of the English Indians, & incline them to the residence of such persons amongst the Indians the English would be attended with the further advantage, that seasonable intelligence might be always obtained of any attempts of the French to draw over the Indians & proper means used to defeat them.

We have nothing to add on the subject of the Representation of the state of his Majesty's Colonies &c. but with respect to the Plan of an Union of the several British Governments your

Commissioners

Commissioners were in some doubt, whether it might
not be convenient that the Colonies should be divided
into at least two Districts, as the great distance of
the two extream parts of his Majestys Govern ment
from each other, must render it always very burthen
some to some or other of the Members to Give their
attendance, to the place of meeting where it will
and in a Government of so large an extent there
will be danger of some parts being neglected or
unequally considered; but as the designs of the
French may probably require the united strength
& Councils of the whole British Continent, and as it
seemed to be of the last importance that all affairs
which relate to the Indians, should be under but
one direction, and considered without any Special
regard to any one particular Governments, we
were induced to prefer the present Plan.

We think our selves further bound
to observe that an happy harmony subsisted amon[g]
the Commissioners from the several Governments
and [illegible]
but the insufficiency of the Powers from several of the
said Governments rendered it impracticable for them to come
to any conclusive Resolution, Agreement which
have been before but we hope and desire that for
Commissioners in pursuance of their Instruction
for preserving the Friendship of the Indians & for making the
would most effectually have endeavoured on the part
Danger of hostilities ... and in the behalf
of this Province.

All which is humbly submitted.

In Council Oct. 25th 1754

Samuel Welles.

Read & Sent Down

Tho Hutchinson
Ol. Partridge
Jonn Worthington

In the House of Representatives Nov. 1. 1754

Read & Ordered that the above Report be
Committed unto the Com[mittee] appointed upon that Matter
Sent up for Concurrence

T. Hubbard Spk.

In Council Nov. 1. 1754 Read & Concurred

Thos Clarke Dpty. Secy.

Majesty's Customs of this Port and
of the Cargo on Board the said Vessel, as
may be sufficient to defray the Expence of the repairs
and of Provisions for the Voyage And that previous
to an Estimate of the repairs and necessarys wanting
the said Vessel be made upon Oath by such proper person
Collector of his Majesty's Customs shall appoint who is to be
served with a Copy hereof.

At a Council held in the

City of Albany the 15th day of June 1754.

Present

The Hon.ble James De Lancey Esqr. Lieut. Gov.r
M.r Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith

Intelligence from Lieut.t Holland & Cargo taken &c.

His Honour Communicated a Letter of the 10th Instant from Lieutenant Holland at Oswego, requesting by his Honour that unto his last Report setting forth French Vessels passed that Post, at three different times, towards Niagara, with Colours flying Drums beating &c.a And that he has Intelligence that all the Indians of the five Nations, who are settled near the River Ohio, have quitted their Settlements, and returned to their respective Castles through fear of the disturbances likely to happen there.

Commr.s Affairs &c. as to what is proper to be recommended to the Six Nations at the Treaty

His Honour communicated an Abstract of the proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian affairs of the 6 Nations which his Honour has directed to be sent them, together with the minutes & Letters as they might be necessary to be recommended to the Indians at the approaching Conferences: Therewith the Commissioners Report is as follows.

That the six Nations should be incited to dwell together in their respective Castles, and the Mohawks to live in one Castle only.

That the Onondagas be desired to live together in one Castle, and to cause all their Friends and Relations, where ever dispersed, to join them; and particularly those who have separated themselves and live at present at Sawgachie (a French Settlement of Indians of the six Nations on the South side of the River St Lawrence)

That his Honour insist on the Senecas, who live very remote from one another, to make a general settlement near the South of the Seneca River where they have already begun to build a new Castle.

That

Interest, will be to build [illegible]

ther in the Senecas Country; and [illegible]

That the carrying and selling Rum in the

ations should be restrained.

And Lastly that no Frenchman, on any pretence

soever, do Trade amongst the six Nations; and that the Indians

desired to send those away who are now among them, and

them not to return.

His Honour laid before the Board a Minute of the

Commissioners of this day, setting forth that divers complaints

been made to them, that the Conajoharry Indians forcibly take

Rum from the Oswego Traders: and that the Oneida Indians ob

the Traders to let them carry their goods over the carrying place

ers to pay double and sometimes more than double the costo

Rates, which the Traders are willing to take. And therefore desi

his Honour to represent the injustice of these proceedings to the Se

Nations.

Also a Remonstrance to the same purpose from the Oswego

Traders.

All which Matters the Council were of Opinion were proper

to be proposed to the consideration of the Commissioners at the Congre

and that the Recommendation of the Mohawks should receive together

with the Castle only for which the Council were apprehensive there

was no good reason, and therefore thought it not necessary.

His Honour then laid before the Board the several Matter

he proposed to recommend to the Commissioners viz.

That the Treaty to be made with the Indians be in the Name

name in behalf of all the Colonies, and if any of the Commissione

would propose Matters relative to a particular Government only,

that it be made a part of the General Treaty.

That it be principally insisted on in the Conference — to

unite all the Six and nine Nations in the British Interest, and their

strict amity common Alliance and Friendship with each other, and

with all the Colonies on the Continent.

That Two Forts be built at the places mentioned by the

Commissioners of Indian affairs, and proper Garrisons constantly

maintained in them, and Smiths to repair their Guns, in whose hands

small Sums of money should be put, to provide and give to the Indians

such necessary Supplies, as they may stand most in need of from

time to time.

And that for the securing the Frontiers of this and the

Eastern Colonies, three Forts be built and maintained with sufficient

Garrisons in them.

One in a proper situation near the Carrying place on

Hudson's River.

One on the Lake St Sacrament

And

[illegible] further [illegible]
[illegible] the Inlets by which the French [illegible]
[illegible] incursions into these Colonies.

Which points the Council approved of [illegible]
[illegible] recommended accordingly

Ordered that Mr Banyar do wait upon the Commissioners from the several Governments and acquaint them that his Honour desires they will meet him in Council in the Hall to Morrow Morning at 11 o Clock, in order to produce their Powers and proceed upon Business.

At a Council held at the City Hall in the City of Albany the 19th day of June 1754

Present

The Hono. James De Lancey Esqr Lieut Govr &c.
Mr Murray
Col. Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

The Commissioners from the Provinces of New Hampshire Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pensylvania and Maryland took their Seats, and then his Honour opened the Conferences by reading that part of the Letter from the Lords of Trade of the 18th September last, which relates to a Meeting with the Indians, and directs the Treaty to be made with them, to be in his Majesty's Name; and to convene all his Majesty's Colonies and then the Commissioners produced their respective Commissions. Which were read.

His Honour then laid before the Commissioners the two Minutes of the proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian affairs, and the Determinations of the Council yesterday: And recommended as the first step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the Commissioners should communicate to the several Matters they may judge proper to be proposed to the Indians at the intended Conferences with them, and prepare the Speech to be made on the Occasion: for which purpose if his Honour acquainted them, he would direct the Secretary or Agent of Indian affairs, to attend them with the Records of that Office, and the Commissioners of Indian affairs to meet together as often as it should be necessary, that they might give them all the necessary information relating to Indian affairs.

At a Council held at the City of Albany the 21st day of June 1754.

Present

The Hono. James De Lancey Esqr Lieut Govr &c.
Mr Murray
Col. Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

His Honour acquainted the Council that the upper Castle of the Mohawks

Right Honble

Williamsburg Virginia June 18th 1754.

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I arrived here from Winchester two Daies ago, I went there to deliver His Majesty's Present to the Chiefs of the different Nations of Indians on the Ohio; They sent me a Message that as the French had invaded & taken Possession of their Lands they did not think it proper to meet me at Winchester, for fear their People would not remain Ready; That they had joined our Forces under the Command of Colo. Washington, & praid me to send them some of the Present sent them by their Father the King of Great Britain, which I did, to the Care of Colo. Washington to be divided amongst them.

I received an Express from Col. Washington acquainting me that a Party of French from the Fort they took from us some Time ago, came to reconnoitre our Forces; the Half King sent Col. Washington Notice thereof, & desired him to come with a Party of Men, & he would assist to defeat their Designs, he accordingly marched with forty Men & joined the Half King, Monacatoocha & some other Indians, one of the Indian Runners track their Feet & came to their Lodgement on the 27th of May, they see our People about one hundred Yards off, flew to their Arms & immediately a small Skirmish ensued, we lost one Man, & two Wounded; We killed twelve & took Twenty one Prisoners, which Mr Washington sent down to me, & are now in Confinement.

They pretended they were coming Ambassadors to our Camp, the contrary there of Your Lordship will observe by the inclosed Copy of their Instructions & Summons, if come on peaceful Terms, they would not have encamped about our Camp for three Days successively — The Breach was begun by the French in taking our Fort, & this little Skirmish was by the Half King & their Indians, we were as auxiliaries to them, as my Orders to the Commander of our Forces to be on the Defensive but now these Ceremonies are to be laid aside, & Endeavours to be made to repell Force by Force, till they leave His Majesty's Lands so unjustly Invaded.

In order to effect this, our Forces have erected a Stockade Fort, near the Monongahela, for a Retreat on Occasion. The Independent Company from S. Carolina has joined them, the two Companies from York arrived here only Four Daies ago, tho' my Lord Holderness's Letter was forwarded to the Governor of New York the 1st of May. — The Supply from North Carolina

(of

of 400 Men are on their March, when they are all collected
they will scarcely amount to 900 Men, & it's reported the Frenc
will consist of 1500, that I think we are not of Strength sufficie
however all in my Power shall be done with great Assiduity.

I have been for some Months flatterd with a mutu
Assistance from the neighbouring Colonies, agreable to His Ma
Commands to them, & tho' the Assemblies have met several Ti
they have done Nothing, or can I have any Dependence of Aid
them; & I beg leave to give my humble Opinion, That the Encr
of the French in possessing themselves of His Majesty's Lands,
never be effectually opposed but by means of an Act of Parliam
to compell the Colonies to contribute to the Common Cause,
independently of Assemblies, which, in these Parts, are either
Ignorant, or do not foresee Danger at a Distance, or at least so
obstinate as to pay little Regard to it. I have wrote to L.t Thom
Robinson on this Head, & the Necessity & Urgency thereof, I need
press to Y.r Lordship.

I was ordered to conduct this Expedition, which I
chearfully undertook, but having only few Men & no Money, You
easily consider the Situation I am in. The Perverseness of our
neighbouring Colonies gives me much Concern, however for
these Difficulties I shall continue to act to the outmost of my
Capicity & Power.

If our Assembly had granted Money in November
when I applied to them agreable to His Majesty's Orders, I think
should have got a Fort finished, & a number of Forces in it befo
the French came down the River Ohio, but they were so obstin
that I could not prevail with them to believe, or attend to the De
of the French. . . My Endeavours to obtain the Friendship of t
Indians has been constant, & I had the Pleasure at Winchester
receive three Strings of Wampum, from the Wyondotts & other
of Indians, with their Promises to endeavour to bring over the
Ottoways, & other Tribes that were in the French Interest, how
we must not depend on these Promises, as they are often draw
away by fair Speeches.

Should the French continue to be reinforced,
whilst we diminish, for want of a mutual Supply from our
neighbouring Colonies, what a Situation must we be in,
case we run the Risque of loosing the Indians, & Invaded in
present Settlements.

I beg Your Lordship's Goodness to consider me
present Situation & the Urgency thereof, which compells me
You so explicite an Account of the Expedition, on this so
interesting a Subject, & honour me with Your Favour & Assi
I shall with Assiduity & care prosecute what is begun in Supp
our Forces with Provisions &c.a

Nous Capitaine d'une Compie du Détachement de la Marine, Commandant en Chef le Party de la Belle Riviere, des forts du Quesne, Presqu'isle et de la Riviere au Bœuf

Il est ordonné au Sr De Jumonville Enseigne des troupes de partir incessament, avec un Officier, trois Cadets, un Volontaire, un interprete Anglois, et vingt huit hommes, pour aller à la Decouverte jusqu'à la hauteur des terres, il suivra la Riviere malEngueulée En Pirrogues jusqu'au hangard, apres quoy il marchera jusqu'à ce qu'il ait trouvé le Chemin qui va communiquer à celui que l'on dit que les Anglois ont fait construire.

Comme les Sauvages debitent que les Anglois sont en marche pour venir nous attaquer, ce que nous ne pouvons croire, puisque nous sommes en Paix, mais s'il arrivoit contre toute attente que le Sr De Jumonville eût Connoissance de quelques mouvements de la part des Anglois sur les terres du Domaine du Roy, il s'y transportera et leur remettera la Sommation dont nous le chargeons.

Luy ordonnons que dans ce cas il ait à nous depecher, avant de faire sa Sommation, deux Bonnes jambes, pour nous informer de ce qu'il aura appris, du jour ou il compte faire la Sommation, et sitôt qu'elle sera faite, de faire toute la Diligence possible pour nous en apporter la Réponce.

Si le Sr De Jumonville entendoit dire que les Anglois sont de l'autre côté de la Grande montagne, il ne passera pas la hauteur des terres, ne voulant en rien les troubler, et voulant maintenir l'union qui regne entre les deux Couronnes.

Nous recommandons au Sr De Jumonville de se tenir

N. Walthoc &c. &c.

Tenir sur ses Gardes contre toute Surprise, tant de la part des Anglois, que des Sauvages; Si il rencontre des Sauvages, il leur dira qu'il se promene pour voir ce qui se passe sur les terres du Roy et prendre connoissance des differents Chemins et leur fera amitié.

Fait au Camp du fort du Quesne

le 23e May 1754.

Contrecoeur

A true Copy

N. Walthoe Cl. Con.

Sommation que fera le Sr De Jumonville Officier des troupes du Roy tres Chrêtien, au Commandant des troupes Angloises, s'il en trouve sur les terres du Domaine du Roy.

Monsieur

Il m'est deja revenü par la voye des Sauvages que vous veniés armé et à forces ouvertes sur les terres du Roy mon maitre, sans toutesfois pouvoir le croire, mais ne devant rien negliger pour en être informé au juste, je detache le Sr De Jumonville pour le voir par luy même, et en cas qu'il vous y trouve, vous sommer de la part du Roy, en vertu des ordres que j'en ay de mon General, de vous retirer paisiblement avec votre troupe, sans quoy, Monsieur, vous m'obligeries à vous y contraindre par toutes les voyés que je regarderois les plus efficaces pour l'honneur des armes du Roy; la vente des terres de la Belle Riviere par les Sauvages vous est un si foible titre, que je ne pourray m'empecher, Monsieur, de repouser La force par la force.

Je vous previens que si apres cette Sommation qui sera la derniere que je vous feray faire, il arrive quelque Acte d'ostilité, que ce sera à vous d'en repondre, puisque notre intention est de maintenir l'union qui regne entre deux Princes amis.

Tels que soyent vos projets, Monsieur, je me flatte que vous aurés pour Mr De Jumonville tous les egards que merite cet Officier, et que vous me le renverrés sur le Champ pour m'informer de vos intentions.

Je suis en attendant avec Respect

Monsieur

votre tres humble et tres
obeissant Serviteur

Contrecœur

fait au Camp du fort
du Lusne le 23e May 1754.

a true Copy N. Walthoe Cl. Com

The Honour of a Letter in answer to this will greatly oblige

S: The Half Kingstone are the Comanders of Indians on the Ohio appointment of the Six Nations

Right Honble

Your most Obedient humble Servant
Robt Dinwiddie

R.t Hon.d Lords for Trade &c.

Virginia.

Letter from Robert Dinwiddie Esq.
Lieut. Gov.r of Virginia, dated at
Williamsburg y.e 18.th of June 1754, ac=
quainting the Board, that he had been at
Winchester to deliver His Majesty's Present
to y.e Chiefs of y.e different Nations of
Indians on y.e Ohio; ~~That a Skirmish~~

had been there, with a Party of French
from the Fort (they lately took from us) to
reconnoitre our Forces; We lost one
Man, & two were wounded; We killed
twelve, & took twenty one Prisoners, which
Col.o Washington sent down, & are now
in Confinement.

Rec.d August y.e 19.th
Read Nov.r 7 } 1754.
55

W 173

[illegible] Settlements by which the French [illegible]
[illegible] incroachments into these Colonies.

Which points the Council approved of & recommended accordingly.

Ordered that Mr Banyar do wait upon the Commissioners from the several Governments and acquaint them that his Honour desires they will meet him in Council in the City Hall to Morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock, in order to produce their Commissions and proceed upon Business.

At a Council held at the City Hall in the City of Albany the 19th day of June 1754

Present

The Hon.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.

Mr Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

Commissioners from the Provinces of New Hampshire Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut Rhode Island Pensylvania and Maryland took their Seats, and then his Honour opened the Conferences by reading that part of the Letter from the Lords of Trade of the 18th September last, which relates to a Meeting with the Indians, and directs the Treaty to be made with them, to be in his Majesty's Name; and to consist with all his Majesty's Interests and then the Commissioners produced their respective Commissions, Which were read.

His Honour then laid before the Commissioners the two Minutes of the proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian affairs, and the Commentaries of the Oswego Traders held in Council yesterday: And recommended as the first step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the Commissioners should communicate to each other the several Matters they may judge proper to be proposed to the Indians at the intended Conferences with them, & prepare the Speech to be made on the occasion: for which purpose if his Honour acquainted them, he would direct the Secretary or Agent of Indian affairs, to attend them with the Records of that Office, as the Commissioners of Indian affairs to meet together as often as occasion may require, that they might give them all the necessary information relative to Indian affairs.

At a Council held at the City of Albany the 21st day of June 1754.

Present

The Hon.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.

Mr Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

His Honour acquainted the Council that the upper Castle of the Mohawks

for their arrival to make the speech
had prepared a Message to be sent to
laid before the Board, and which was appro
follows:

Brethren of Connajoharie.

I am Surprized at your
so long from this place, where I have been for a con
time. I expected you here among the first as you h
complaints to make to me: which I have been, and a
ready to hear, and I would have you come down imm
whereas the Commissioners from the other Gover
shall be oblig'd to speak to the Six Nations without y

At a Council held in the City o
Albany the 15th day of June 1754. Present
The Hon.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r
&c.a
M.r Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith.

Present

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpreter that
the two Castles of the Mohawk Indians now in this City, he
sent to desire to lay before him, and desired to be admitte
to an audience; appointed them to attend at 4 o'Clock this
afternoon in Council and they attended accordingly, —
were introduced with the Interpreter.

His Honour told them he was very glad to
see them, that he was now in Council and ready to hear
what they had to say.

Hendrick (Tiyanoga) then spoke, addressi
himself to his Honour, & in the following

Brother

We are here this day by your will, and your
former Great Council which you have held in Albany by
agreement. This is our Old Place of Council, where, if we have
any Grievances, we can lay them open. You are lately come
to the Government, and we are glad to see you to lay our
Complaints before you — We expect very kind usage from you as you have given us the opportunity to unfold our Minds, and we will now proceed to declare our Grievances.

Brother

We shall now open our Minds and we beg you will
take care to consider rightly what we shall say, and not give us
-too.

The Lower Castle &
Mohawks introduced
and accompanied with
them in which they
remain in that
Council & sent with
Hendrick to
present.

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMISSIONERS FROM 6 PROVINCES MET AT ALBANY ANNO 1754 ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Massachusetts Bay.

William Shirley Esq[r] Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province
[L S] of the Massachusetts Bay in New England.

To Samuel Welles, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge, and John Worthington Esq[rs].
Greeting

Whereas in pursuance of Letters from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the plantations dated the 28 of August & 19 of September 1753 to the Governor of several of his Majesties plantations in North America a General convention of Commissioners for their Respective Governments is appointed to be held at the City of Albany in the Month of June next for holding an Interview with the Indians of the Five Nations and making them presents on the part of the said Governments usual upon such occasions in order to confirm and Establish their antient attachment to his Majesty and their constant Friendship to his Majesties Subjects on this Continent. And whereas the great and General Court or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid have elected and appointed you to represent and appear for the said Province at the Convention aforesaid for the purposes above mentioned; as also for entering into Articles of Union and Confederation with the aforesaid Governments for the General Defence of his Majesties Subjects and Interests in North America as well in time of Peace as in war. Now I do by these presents impower and Commissionate you the said Samuel Welles, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge, and John Worthington as Commissioners (or any three of You) to appear for and represent the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid at the proposed Convention of Commissioners, to be held at the City of Albany in the Month of June next then and there to concert, with the Commissioners (from all or any of his Majesties British Governments) that may be there convened, such Measures as may be judged proper for the Purposes afores[d] and to agree upon the same; and herein you must observe such Instructions as are herewith delivered you, or may from time to time be given you by the Great and General Court or Assembly of this Province.

Given under my hand and the Publick Seal of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid the nineteenth Day of April 1754 in the twenty Seventh Year of his Majestys Reign.

W. SHERLEY

By His Excellency's Command
J. Willard Secry. &c
A true copy Att[st]

Samuel Welles
John Chandler
Thomas Hutchinson
Ol[r] Partridge
John Worthington

Province of New Hampshire

George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c.

[L S]

To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting

Whereas we have Ordered a Sum of Money to be Issued for Presents to the Six Nations of Indians and to direct our Governor of New York to hold an Interview with them for delivering those Presents, for Burying the Hatchet and for renewing the Covenant Chain, with them and inasmuch as the Attempts that have been made to withdraw them from our interest appear to us to make a General

interview more Particularly Necessary at this time, and that all our Colonys whose Interest and Security is connected with, and depend upon those Indians should be present at, and join in such Interview

Know Ye therefore That we reposing much trust and Confidence in the Integrity and Ability of the Honourable Theodore Atkinson Esqr. the Hono^{ble} Richard Wibird Esqr two of our Council of our said Province, The Hono^{ble} Meshech Weare Esqr Speaker of the General Assembly of our said Province, and Henry Scherbourn Junr Esqr. also a Member of our said General Assembly, have by and with the advice of our trusty and well beloved Benning Wentworth Esqr. our Governor and Commander in Chief of our Province of New Hampshire aforesaid, named, made, constituted, and appointed And we by these presents name, make, Constitute and Appoint the said Theodore Atkinson Esqr Richard Wibird Esqr. Mesech Weare Esqr. and Henry Sherburne Esqr. our true and undoubted Commissioners hereby giving unto them full power and Authority as well as our special Command to repair to our City of Albany, or other place where the said Interview may be held and carryed on, and there by the whole or the Major part of those of them that shall be present at the said Interview, for us and in our name together with such other Commissioners as shall be Regularly appointed from our other Colonies and provinces in America to attend at the said Interview to agree upon consult and conclude what may be necessary for Establishing a sincer and lastly Friendship and good Harmony with the said Six Nations of Indians, and if necessary, for us and in our Name to sign everything so agreed upon and concluded, and to do, and transact all matters and things which may appertain to the finishing the above-said work. In Testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of our said Province of New Hampshire to be hereunto affixed Witness Benning Wentworth Esqr. Our Governor and Commander in Chief of our said Province of New Hampshire in New England this third Day of June 1754 and in the Twenty Seventh Year of our Reign.

By His Excellencys
Command.
Theodore Atkinson Sec^{y}

Copy Ex^{d} per

B. WENTWORTH
Theodore Atkinson
R. Wibird
Meshech Weare
Hen: Sherburne Junr.

CONNECTICUT

(Sigilum Colonie Conecticut ences)

Thomas Fitch Esqr Governor and Commander in Chief of his Majestys English Coloney of Connecticut in New England in America.

To William Pitkin Roger Wolcot Junr & Elisha Williams Esquires Greeting.

Whereas you are by the General Assembly of said Colony nominated and Appointed to be Commissioners in behalf of said Colony to meet such Commissioners as are or shall be appointed by his Majesty's other Governments in America, at a General Interview at Albany on the fourteenth day of June next and Join with them in concerting proper Measures for the General Defence and safety of his Majesties Subjects in said Governments and the Indians in Alliance with them against the French and their Indians. Therefore in pursuance of said Act of Assembly, you the said William Pitkin, Roger Wolcot Junr and Elisha Williams Esq^{rs} are Commissioned Authorized and impowered in behalf of this his Majesties Colony of Connecticutt to meet the Commissioners appointed by his Majesties other Governments in America at Albany on the 14th day of June next, and in Concert with such Commissioners from his Majesties other Governments as shall meet there to consult proper Measures for the General defence, and safety of his Majesty's Subjects in said Governments and the Indians in his

Alliance against the French, and their Indians; and to use and pursue proper measures in pursuance of your Instructions from the said General Assembly, relateing to the matters aforesaid

Given under my hand and the Publick Seal of the Colony of Connecticutt in Hartford this 30th day of May Anno Regni Regis Georgij 2di Magn: Brittain: &c 27mo Annoq. Domini 1754.

By his honours Command. THOMAS FITCH.
George Wyllys Secrety

A true Copy Tests. Wm Pitkin Roger Wolcot Junr
Elisha Williams. Commissioners.

Rhode Island

{Locus Sigilli} By the Honourable William Green Esqr Governor and Captain General of the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation in New England in America.

To Stephen Hopkins, and Martin Howard Junr Esqrs Greeting

Whereas the General Assembly of this Colony have on their parts chosen and appointed you to meet with the Commissioners of the other Governments at Albany on the fourteenth day of this Instant June and join with them in a Treaty with the Six Nations of Indians in order to Secure the Interest of his Majesty and his good Subjects in those parts.

I do therefore by Virtue of an act of the General Assembly of this Colony, authorise impower and Commissionate You the said Stephen Hopkins and Martin Howard Junr forthwith to repair to Albany aforesaid, and there in behalf of this Colony to meet and join with the other Commissioners in Consulting what Methods are proper to be used, to preserve the Friendship of the aforesaid Six Nations of Indians and their Attachments to the British Interest in America. and also what else may be necessary to prohibit the French and their Allies the Indians, from encroaching on the Lands within the Dominions of his Majesty. And in General as far as the Abilities of this Government will permit, to act in Conjunction with the said Commissioners in every thing necessary, for the good of his Majesties Subjects in those parts, and to Answer as far as we can the Designs of his Majesties Instructions to this Colony communicated to us, by the Earl of Holderness.—

In Testimony whereof I do hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the Colony aforesaid to be hereunto Affixed this Twelfth day of June, One Thousand Seven Hundred and fifty four, and in the twenty Seventh Year of the Reign of his most sacred Majesty George the Second by the Grace of God King of Great Britain &cs

By his Honours Command William Greene
Tho Ward Secr'y. A true Copy Exd by Stephen Hopkins
Martin Howard Junr

Pennsylvania ss

George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the faith and so forth.

To our Trusty and wellbeloved John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin of the City of Philadelphia Esquires Greeting.

Whereas the Honoble James DeLancey Esqr Our Lieut Governor and Commander in Chief of our Province of New-York has received our Directions to hold an Interview with our loving and good Allies the Six United Nations of Indians at the City of Albany within our said Province for deliv-

ering to them our Presents and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and has fixed upon the fourteenth day of June Ensuing for this purpose, and it has been usual when an Interview has been held with these Indians for all his Majesties Colonies whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them to join in such Interview, and it appears to us that the present disposition of those Indians and the attempts that Have been made to withdraw them from our Interest do make such a General Interview more particularly Necessary at this time, when the Subjects of the French King have actually marched into, and Erected Forts, and committed Hostilities within the known limits of our Dominions.

KNOW YE that reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, abilities and prudence WE have thought fit to nominate and Appoint you the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin and every of you our Commissioners on behalf of our Governor of our Province of Pensylvania aforesaid in Conjunction with our Lieut Governor of New York and with the Commissioners of the other Governments to Treat with the Six united Nations of Indians at Albany, or with their, or any, or every, of their Chiefs or Delegates, and with them to renew, ratify and Confirm the Leagues of amity subsisting between us and the said Nations of Indians and to make them the presents that have been provided for them by the Governor and Assembly of our said Province of Pensylvania, and further to do, Act and Transact, and finally to Conclude and Agree with the Indians aforesaid, all and every other matter and thing which to you shall appear necessary for the Engageing them heartily in our Interest and for frustating any attempts which have been made to withdraw them from it,—As fully and amply to all intents Constructions and purposes, as our Governor of our province of Pensylvania aforesaid might or could do, being personally present, hereby ratifying confirming and holding for firm and Effectual whatsoever you the said John Penn, Richard Peters Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin, or any of you shall Lawfully do, in and about the Premises— In Testimony whereof we have Caused the Great Seal of our said Province to be hereunto Affixed.

Witness JAMES HAMILTON Esq[r]

(by Virtue of a Commission from Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esqr[s] true and absolute Proprietors of the said province and with our Royal approbation) Lieut Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province aforesaid and Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex upon Delaware at philadelphia the thirteenth day of May in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and fifty four and in the twenty Seventh of our Reign

A true Copy JAMES HAMILTON

Ex[d] Richard peters
Is Norris
B. Franklin

MARYLAND

WHEREAS his Majesty has been pleased to order a sum of Money to be issued for presents to the Six Nations of Indians and to direct his Governor of New York to hold an Interview with them for delivering those presents, for Burying the Hatchet and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them and whereas in Obedience to his Majesties pleasure signified to them by the Lords of Trade His Majesties Several Colonies on this Continent have resolved to join in such Interview and have made a Provision for sending each their Commissioner with such presents as have been usual on the like Occasions to the said Indian Nations as a means of securing more effectually their Affections to his Majesty and the Brittish Interest. Now in dutyfull Compliance with his Majesty's Requisition as well as from a Sense of the Importance it must be of to us and the several Neighbouring provinces that those Nations be retained in our Alliance more especially at this time when our Enimies are endeavouring

to withdraw them from our Friendship; we have thought fit to Commission you Col° Benjamin Tasker and Major Abraham Barnes fully trusting in your known Abilities and approved Honour to represent this Province at the Interview appointed to be held at Albany the 14th of June next and then and there to renew the Covenant Chain and enter into a League of Amity with the said Indian Nations and you shall deliver to them (with such Speeches as have been used on Similar Occasions) a present as from his Majesties dutyfull Subjects of this province of Maryland in Money or Goods as to you shall appear most proper to the value of Five Hundred Pounds Currant Money of his Province, which Money you will receive from the Treasurer of the Western Shore and for the better conducting yourselves in Regard to the manner and form of the Treaty to be entered into at Albany with the said Six Allied Nations. You shall refer yourselves for Directions To the Hono^ble James DeLancey Esqr his Majesty's Lieu^t Governor of New York.

And whereas I have had intimation that the Commissioners from the several Neighbouring Colonies will receive Instructions from their respective Governments to concert Measures with the Commiss^rs from the other Provinces for the better Securing these Indians for the future in our Alliance and preventing their being Alienated from our Intrest by the Artifices or insinuations of our Enemy, as well as for the more easy defence of his Majesties Dominions on this Continent, You shall if any Propositions of that nature are made by the Commissioners in behalf of their Respective Governments let them know that this Province is also disposed to contribute to the Execution of any General Scheme to promote such desirable Ends, and you will take care to observe well what Propositions shall or may be made concerning such General Schemes and commit the Substance thereof to writing for my Information and to be laid before the General Assembly for their Consideration—But you are to understand that you are not impowered to Stipulate or engage that this Province will advance any sum of Money or number of Men towards erecting Forts or Garrissoning them, or to any such purposes. But you shall only well observe what proposals are made by the other Commissioners and endeavour to Learn how far the Execution of what they may propose can be Necessary or usefull, and consider well the Reasonableness of any such propositions and inform yourselves whether the other Commissioners are Authorized to Stipulate and agree thereon and at your return you shall inform me of these several Particulars and any other things that may Possibly occur to your notice; That I may not be Ignorant after what manner we can best contribute to the success of any such Scheme as shall be proposed at the aforesaid Interview for the defence or utility of his Majesties Dominions and Subjects.

Annapolis May 30th 1754 Hor° Sharpe

A true Copy Examined
By Benj^a Tasker Junr
A Barnes.

Albany the 19th June 1754

Proceedings *of the Congress held at Albany by the Hono^ble James De Lancey Esqr Lieu^t Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York and the Commissioners of the Several provinces now met in this City.*

At a meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 19th June 1754. A M.

Present

The Hono^ble the Lieutenant Govr of New York

Joseph Murray	
William Johnson	Samuel Welles
John Chambers	John Chandler

William Smith
Esq[rs] of His
Majesties Council
of this Province

Oliver Partridge
John Worthington
Esq[rs]
Commissioners for
Massachusetts Bay

Theodore Atkinson
Richard Wibird
Meshec Weare
Henry Sherburn Jun[r]
Esquires
Commissioners for His
Majesties Province
of New Hampshire

William Pitkin
Roger Wolcott
Elisha Williams
Esq[rs]
Commissioners for the Colony
of Connecticutt

Stephen Hopkins &
Martin Howard Jun[r]
Esq[rs]
Commissioners for the Colony
of Rhode Island

John Penn
Richard Peters
Isaac Norris
Benjamin Franklin
Esq[rs]
Commissioners for the
Government of Pensylvania

Benjamin Tasker &
Abraham Barnes
Esq[rs]
Commissioners for the Government
of Maryland

His Honour the Lieu[t] Governor of New York having yesterday directed M[r] Banyar Deputy Secretary of the said province to wait upon the Commissioners of the Several Provinces above named, to Acquaint them that his honour desired they would meet him in Council in the City Hall of Albany this Morning in Order to produce their powers and proceed upon Business

The said Commissioners being now Accordingly met, took their Seats and produced their respective Commissions which were read.

His Honour then produced a Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade bearing date the 18th of Sept[r] last out of which a Paragraph was read.

Afterwards were read, Two Minutes of the proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs in this City dated the 15th & 18th Inst, also a Remonstrance from the Oswego Traders to his Honour

It was recommended as the first step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the Commissioners should consider of the several matters they may judge proper to be proposed to the Indians at the intended interview with them, and to prepare the Speech to be made on that occasion, for which purpose his Honour acquainted the Commissioners he would direct the Secretary or Agent for Indian Affairs to attend them with the Records of that Office. And the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to meet together as often as there should be Occasion, in order that they might give them all the Information relative to Indian Affairs.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 19th June 1754 P. M.

Present

Joseph Murray
William Johnson
John Chambers
William Smith
Esqrs
of his Majesties Council
of this Province

Samuel Welles
John Chandlor
Oliver Partridge
John Worthington
Esqrs
Commissioners for
Massachusett Bay

Theodore Atkinson
Richard Wibird
Meshec Weare
Henry Sherburn Junr
Esqrs
Commissioners for His
Majesties Province of
New Hampshire

William Pitkin
Roger Wolcott
Elisha Williams
Esqrs
Commissioners for the Colony
of Connecticut

Stephen Hopkins &
Martin Howard Junr
Esqrs
Commissioners for the Colony
of Rhode Island

John Penn
Richard Peters
Isaac Norris
Benjamin Franklin
Esqrs
Commissioners for the
Governmt of Pennsylvania

Benjamin Tasker &
Abraham Barnes
Esqrs
Commissioners for the
Governmt of Mary Land

The Board proceeded to take into Consideration the Matters recommended by his Honour in the Morning——The whole Letter from the Lords of Trade was read and is as follows

Whitehall Septr 18th 1753.

Sr A few days after you sailed from Portsmouth We received a Letter from Mr Clinton, inclosing Minutes of the proceedings between him & a Deputation of the Mohawk Indians, at Fort George in the City of New York in June last, with the Journals of the Assembly then Sitting

You will without doubt upon your arrival be fully informed of the particular Circumstances of this Affair, the resentment expressed by the Indians And the Abrupt and hasty manner in which they went away; and tho' from the Confidence we have of your Vigilant Attention to whatever may Concern Your Government, We are persuaded you will not have failed to have taken every Necessary and prudent Measure to Obviate the fatal Consequences which might Attend this Affair, Yet we think it no less our Duty to embrace the first Opportunity of writing our Sentiments to you upon it and of pointing out to you what appears to us necessary to be done.

When we Consider of how great Consequence the Friendship and Alliance of the Six Nations is to all His Majesties Colonies and Plantations in America in General as well as to New York in particular, When we consider that this Friendship and Alliance is only to be gained and preserved by making presents to them at proper times and upon proper Occasions, and by an inviolable Observance

of all our Engagements with them, And when we recollect the Attempts which have lately been made to withdraw them from the British Interest, We cannot but be greatly concerned and Surprized, that the Province of New York should have been so inattentive to the General Interest of his Majesties Subjects in America, as well as to their own Particular Security, as to have given Occasion to the Complaints made by the Indians; But we are still more Surprized at the manner in which these Complaints were received. The Dissatisfactory answers given to the Indians, and at their being Suffered to depart, (tho' the Assembly was then sitting) without any Measures taken to bring them to temper or to redress their Complaints

This being the light in which we see this Affair, We think it for his Majesties Service that you should take the very first opportunity of representing to the Council and Assembly in the Strongest manner of how great Importance it is to the province of New York to preserve the Friendship and Affection of the Indians and the fatal Consequences which must inevitably follow from a Neglect of them, that you should press them to join with and support you in every measure you shall find it necessary to pursue, in Order to fix them on the British Interest, more especially by making proper Provision for presents for them, which joined to the presents Allowed by his Majesty, and which you will receive by this Conveyance, may serve to facilitate this great End, and to wipe away all Remembrance of that neglect the Indians now complain of. As a speedy Interview with the Indians is from their present Disposition become the more necessary You will no doubt think it proper to Advise with the Council as to the time and place of Meeting the Indians, in which points We trust you will have a due regard to their Convenience and as it Appears from their Complaints, that Albany which has been the usual place of Meeting is Obnoxious to them, You will if you find Sufficient Foundation for this Complaint, appoint some other place you shall think more for their Ease and Satisfaction, And we observe from a Report of the Council and Assembly to Mr Clinton that Onondaga is proposed as the most proper place. We likewise hope that in the Choice of the Persons who are to attend and Assist you at this Interview, you will have a regard to such as are best Acquainted with the Indians and their Affairs, and not Obnoxious to them; And as a great Deal depends upon the Intepreter, We desire you will be particularly carefull to appoint such as are well acquainted with the Indian Language and Men of Ability and Integrity.

We hope that the Treats of the Mohawk Indians when they left New York have not been carried into Execution, but think it of Absolute Necessity in Order to Abuiate any ill Consequences which might attend these Threats That some person of Character and discretion, should be immediately sent amongst the Indians to acquaint them of your Arrival, Of the presents his Majesty has Ordered to be delivered to them, and of your Intention of holding an Interview with them, for burying the Hatchet and renewing the Covenant Chain; that this person should be carefully instructed to endeavour to remove any prejudices which the Six Nations may have imbibed—from the Representations of the Mohawks, to Obviate the ill Effects which would attend a General discontent amongst them at so Critical a Conjuncture, and to put them upon their Guard against any attempts which may be made to withdraw them from his Majesties Interest; And that nothing may be wanting to Convince the Indians of the Sincerity of our Intentions, You will do well to Examine into the Complaints they have made of being defrauded of their Lands, to take all proper and legal Methods to redress their Complaints, and to gratify them by Reasonable purchases, or in such other matter as you shall find most proper and Agreeable to them, for such lands as have been Unwarrantably taken from them, or for such other as they may have a desire to dispose of; And we recommend it to you to be particularly carefull for the future that you do not make Grants to any Persons Whatsoever of Lands purchased by them of the Indians upon their own Accounts. Such practices have been found in a Neighboring Government to be attended with Great Mischief and Inconvenience; But when the Indians are disposed to

sell any of their Lands, the Purchase ought to be made in his Majesty's Name and at the Publick Charge.

As we find it has been usual upon former Occasions when an Interview has been held with the Indians for the other Neighbouring Governments in Alliance with them to send Commissioners to be joined with those of New York, And as the present weavering Disposition of the Indians equally Effects the other Provinces, We have wrote to the Governor of Virginia, Pensylvania, Maryland, New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay and New Jersey, desiring them to represent to their respective Assemblys the Utility and necessity of this Measure and to Urge them to make proper provision for it; And therefore it will be necessary that when you have Settled the Time and place of Meeting, you should give them early notice of it; And this leads us to recommend one thing more to Your Attention, and that is to take care that all the Provinces be (if practicable) comprized in one General Treaty to be made in his Majesties name, it appearing to us that the Practice of each Province making a Separate Treaty for itself in its own Name is very improper and may be attended with great inconvenience to his Majesties Service

So we bid you heartily farewell and are

Your very loving Friends & Humble Servants

DUNK HALIFAX
J. GRENVILLE
DUPPLIN

To Sr Danvers Osborn Govr of New York
Albany June 1754

a true Copy of the Original Examd by Gw. Banyar D. Secrey

And also were read the following papers from the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany. (viz)

Albany 15th of June 1754

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Mr Lutteridges.

PRESENT

Collo Myndert Schuyler
Robert Saunders Esqr } Mayor of the City
Sybt Van Schaak Recorder
Capt Hubert Marshall Commandr of the Fort.
Cornelius Cuyler
John Beekman
John Renselaer
Jacob Conradt Ten Eyck
Peter Winne
} Esqrs

Peter Wraxall Secretary.

His Honour the Lieut.-Governor The Honourable James De Lancey Esqr having directed Collo Myndert Schuyler to convene the Commissioners of Indian Affairs that they might consult together if they had any matters in particular to recommend to his Honour upon the approaching Interview with the Six Nations.

In Consequence hereof the Commissioners are of Opinion, that the Six Nations who now live dispersed & Confused, should in the most earnest manner be exhorted to unite and dwell together in their respective Castles, And that the Mohawk Nation should live in one Castle only.

That his honour apply to the Onondaga Indians in particular to direct and exhort them to live together in one Castle according to their Antient and prudent Custom, and to cause all their friends and Relations wheresoever dispersed to join them, particularly those who have Separated themselves and live at present at Sweegassie where the French have lately Fortified, have a Garrison and where a French Missionary constantly resides in order to draw them off from our Alliance. At this Sweegassie the French have lately made a Settlement of Indians belonging to the Six Nations of which the greatest part are from Onondaga & Cayouge.

That whereas the French have long been endeavoring to prevail on the Senecas to come and Settle at Irondequat in order to have them nearer to their Settlements the more easily to Effect their design of debauching them from the Brittish Interest; The Commissioners are of Opinion that his Honour should insist on the Sennecas, who at present live very remote from one another, to make a General Castle near the Mouth of the Senneca River, where they have already began to Build a New Castle. This point has been Several times recommended to them by former Governors and which they have faithfully promised to do, but have not hitherto effected.

The Commissioners are of Opinion that the most effectual method to restrain and secure the Six Nations to the British Interest, will be, to Build two Forts, One on the Onondaga, the other in the Sennecas Country and that each Fort be Supplyed with a proper Missionary.

They are further of Opinion that the Carrying and Selling Rum in the Castles of the Six Nations is of the most pernicious Consequence to the Public Interest of this Colony in particular and to the British Interest in General with respect to our Indian Connexions.

The Commissioners are also of Opinion that no Frenchman upon any pretence whatsoever, should be Suffered to reside or Trade amongst the Six Nations, And that the said Six Nations should be directed to send those Frenchmen away who now Trade or reside amongst them, and to warn them not to return—Those French Emissarys having always been of fatal Consequence to the British Interest & amongst the Six Nations.

Albany 18th June 1754.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at the house of Robt Lutteridge

PRESENT

Peter Winne, Sybrant Van Shaik Recorder
Myndert Schuyler
John Beekman
Jacob Coen^{t} Ten Eyck
} Esq^{rs}

Peter Wraxall Secretary.

His Honour the Lieu^{t} Governor having sent to Coll^{o} Myndert Schuyler to know what he should do with regard to the River Indians at the approaching Interview—Coll^{o} Schuyler thought proper to convene the Commissioners that they might Answer His Honour upon this point.

They are of Opinion that after The Six Nations arrive in Town it will be time enough to send a Message to the said River Indians.

WHEREAS divers complaints have been made to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs that the Indians at Conoghoheere Castle do forcibly take Rum from the Oswego Traders in their passage by the said Castle. And also that the Oneida Indians oblige the Traders to let them carry their Goods over the carrying place, and to pay them double and sometimes, more than double the Customary price which the Germans are ready and Willing to take. It is the Opinion therefore of this Board that his Honour be pleased at the Approaching Interview to represent the injustice of those proceedings to the Six Nations and that it is a breach of their promises solemnly made, and a violation of their Engagements entered into and frequently renewed with former Governors.

A true Copy from the Records of Indian Affairs

PETER WRAXALL Secretary.

A Remonstrance was then Read to the Board, from the Oswego Traders to his honour the Lieu[t] Governor of New York of which the following is a Copy

To his Honour James De Lancey Esquire Lieu[t] Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York &c. &c. &c.

We the Traders (or Handlers) to Oswego most humbly beg leave to remonstrate to your Honour the many hazzards and Difficulties We are Subject to in our passage thither from the ill treatment we meet with from the Indians (i e) in passing the Mohawks and Canajohary Castles, they Board our Battoes with Axes knives &c and by force take what Rum they think proper hooping and yelping as if they had Gloried in their depradations and threatening Murder to any that oppose them: And on our Arrival at the great carrying place, The Oneida Indians force our Goods from us at pleasure to carry over, and not content with making us pay a most exorbitant price for each Freight but rob us of our Rum, Stores and other Goods with a great deal of invective threatening language, and are generally so Numerous that we are Obliged to Submit to those impositions or run the risk of being Murdered and Robbed of every thing we have; And to put their Schemes the better in Execution they fore away the High Germans who generally attend with their Horses, that we may be under a Necessity of employing them and paying whatever they please to demand.

We therefore humbly pray your Honour to take these our most severe Grievances under due consideration and fall upon such methods to redress them as in your great wisdom shall seem most Expedient. Accept of our most fervent Prayers for your Welfare and Prosperity as we ever remain with all due Defference, Gratitude and Esteem

Sir your Honours most Dutyfull &
most Humble Servants

Oswego June 1st 1754. To which 47 Several Names were Signed.

The following Gentlemen were appointed a Committee to prepare the Draught of a General Speech to be made by his Honour to the Indians namely

William Johnson
Samuel Welles
Theodore Atkinson
Elisha Williams
Martin Howard Jun
Isaac Norris
Benj[a] Tasker Jun

} Esq[rs] to whom were delivered the aforesaid Papers.

Adjourned till to Morrow Morning

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany
on Thursday the 20th June 1754 A M.

PRESENT

His Honour and the aforesaid Council of New York and Several of the Commissioners.

The Committee appointed Yesterday to prepare a Draught of a General Speech to be made to the Indians not being ready to make their Report, the Board Adjourned till to Morrow Morning.

Proceedings of the Colonial Congress held at Albany.

[New-York Papers, Bundle Kk., No. 20.]

Albany the 19. June 1754.

Proceedings of the Congress held at Albany by the Honble James DeLancey Esqre Lieut^t Govr and commander in Chief of the Prov^ce of New York, and the Commissioners of the Several Provinces now met in this City.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 19. June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT— The Honble the Lieut^t Govr of New York

Joseph Murray William Johnson John Chambers William Smith:	Esquires of His Maj^ty's Council of New York
Theodore Atkinson Richard Wibbird Meshec Weare Henry Sherburne Junr	Esq^rs Commiss^rs for His Maj^ties Province of New Hampshire.
Samuel Welles John Chandler Oliver Partridge John Worthington	Esq^rs Commiss^rs for Massachusets Bay
William Pitkin Roger Wolcott Elisha Williams	Esq^rs Commiss^rs for the Colony of Connecticut.
Stephen Hopkins Martin Howard Junr	Esq^rs Commiss^rs for the Colony of Rhode Island
Bejamin Tasker Abraham Barnes	Esq^rs Commiss^rs for the Govern^t of Maryland.
John Penn Richard Peters Isaac Norris Benjamin Franklin	Esq^rs Commiss^rs for the Govern^t of Pennsylvania

His Honour the Lieut^t Govr of New York having yesterday directed Mr Banyar Deputy Secretary of the said province, to wait upon the Commiss^rs of the several provinces above named, to acquaint them that his Honour desired they would meet him in Council in the City Hall of Albany this morning, in order to produce their powers and proceed upon business.

The said Commiss^rs being now accordingly met took their seats, and produced their respective Commiss^ns which were read.

His Honour then produced a letter from the Right Honble the Lords of Trade, bearing date the 18th of September last, out of which a paragraph was read.

Afterwards were read two Minutes of the proceedings of the Commiss^{rs} of Indian affairs in this City dated the 15th and 18th inst: also a remonstrance from the Oswego Traders to His Honour.

It was recommended as the first step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the Commissioners should consider of the several matters they may judge proper to be proposed to the Indians, at the intended interview with them, and to prepare the speech to be made on that occasion for which purpose his honour acquainted the Commission^{rs}, he would direct the Secretary or Agent for Indian affairs to attend them with the Records of that Office, and the Commiss^{rs} of Indian affairs to meet together as often as there should be occasion in order that they might give them all the information relative to Indian affairs.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday afternoon the 19. June 1754.

PRESENT — The Council of New York, and all the Commiss^{rs} as particularly named in the Minutes of this morning.

The Board proceeded to take into consideration the Matters recommended by his Honour in the Morning. The whole letter from the Lords of Trade was read and is as follows:

Whitehall Septr 18 1753.

Sir,

A few days after you sailed from Portsmouth we received a letter from Mr Clinton, inclosing minutes of the proceedings between him, and a Deputation of the Mohawk Indians, at Fort George in the City of New York, in June last, with the Journals of the Assembly then sitting.

You will without doubt upon your arrival be fully informed of the particular circumstances of this affair, the resentment expressed by the Indians, and the abrupt, and hasty manner in which they went away, and tho' from the confidence we have of your vigilant attention to whatever may concern your Govern^{t}, we are persuaded you will not have failed to have taken every necessary and prudent measure to obviate the fatal consequences which might attend this affair. Yet we think it no less our duty to embrace the first opportunity of writing our sentiments to you upon [it,] and of pointing out to you what appears to us necessary to be done.

When we consider of how great consequence the friendship and alliance of the six Nations is to all His Maj^{ties} Colonies and Plantations in America in general as well as to New York in particular; when we consider that this friendship and alliance, is only to be gained and preserved by making presents to them at proper times and upon proper occasions, and by an inviolable observance of all our engagements with them, and when we recollect the attempts, which have lately been made to withdraw them from the British interest, we cannot but be greatly concerned and surprised, that the Province of New York should have been so inattentive to the general Interest of His Maj^{ties} subjects in America, as well as to their own particular security, as to have given occasion to the complaints made by the Indians, but we are still more surprised at the manner in which these complaints were received, The dissatisfactory answer[s] given to the Indians, & at their being suffered to depart (tho' the Assembly was then sitting) without any measures taken to bring them to Temper or to redress their complaints.

This being the light in which we see this affair, we think it for his Maj$^{ty's}$ service that you sh^{d} take the very first opportunity of representing to the Council and Assembly in the strongest

Manner of how great importance it is to the Province of New York, to preserve the Friendship and affections of the Indians, and the fatal consequences which must inevitably follow from a neglect of them, that you should press them to join with and support you in every measure you shall find it necessary to pursue in order to fix them in the British Interest, more especially by making proper provisions for presents for them, which joined to the presents allowed by His Majᵗʸ, and which you will receive by this conveyance, may serve to facilitate this great end, and to wipe away all remembrance of that neglect, the Indians now complain of. As a speedy interview with the Indians is from their present disposition become the more necessary, you will no doubt think it proper to advise with the Council, as to the time and place of meeting the Indians, in which points we trust you will have a due regard to their convenience, and as it appears from their complaints, that Albany, which has been the usual place of meeting is obnoxious to them, you will, if you find sufficient foundation for this complaint appoint some other place, you shall think more for their Ease and satisfaction, and we observe from a Report of the Council and Assembly to Mʳ Clinton that Onondaga is proposed as the most proper place. We likewise hope that in the choice of the Persons who are to attend and assist you at this interview, you will have a regard to such as are best acquainted, with the Indians and their affairs and not obnoxious to them; and as a great deal depends upon the Interpretors, we desire you will be particularly careful to appoint such as are well acquainted with the Indian language and Men of ability and integrity.

We hope that the Threats of the Mohawk Indians, when they left New York, have not been carried into execution, but think it of absolute necessity in order to obviate any ill consequences which might attend these threats, that some person of character and discretion should be immediately sent amongst the Indians to acquaint them of your arrival, of the presents his Majesty has ordered to be delivered to them and of your intention of holding an interview with them for burrying the Hatchet and renewing the Covenant chain, that this person should be carefully instructed to endeavour to remove any prejudices which the Six Nations may have imbibed from the representations of the Mohawks, to obviate the ill effects which would attend a general discontent among them at so critical a juncture and to put them upon their guard against any attempts which may be made to withdraw them from His Majᵗⁱᵉˢ interest, and that nothing may be wanting to convince the Indians of the sincerity of our intentions; you will do well to examine into the complaints, they have made of being defrauded of their lands, to take all proper and legal methods to redress their complaints, and to gratify them by reasonable purchases, or in such other matter, as you shall find most proper and agreable to them, for such lands as have been unwarrantably taken from them, and for such others as they may have a desire to dispose of, and we recommend it to you to be particularly careful for the future that you do not make grants to any persons whatsoever of lands purchased by them of the Indians upon their own accounts, such practices have been found in a neighbouring Governᵗ to be attended with great mischief & inconvenience; but when the Indians are disposed to sell any of their lands, the purchase ought to be made in His Majᵗʸˢ name and at the publick charge.

As we find it has been usual upon former occasions when an interview has been held with the Indians, for the other neighbouring Governᵘˢ in alliance with them to send Commissⁿˢ to be joined with those of New York, and as the present wavering disposition of the Indians equally effects the other provinces, we have wrote to the Governours of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, N. Hampshire, Massachusets Bay and New Jersey, desiring them to represent to their respective assemblies the utility and necessity of this measure, and to urge them to make proper provision

for it and therefore it will be necessary that when you have settled the time and place of meeting, you should give them early notice of it, and this leads us to recommend one thing more to your attention, and that is to take care that all the provinces be (if practicable) comprised in one general treaty to be made in His Majᵗʸ's name, it appearing to us that the practice of each province making a separate treaty for itself in its own name, is very improper, and may be attended with great inconvenience to His Majesty's service. So we bid you heartily farewell and are

Your very loving friends and
humble servants
DUNK HALIFAX
J. GRENVILLE
DUPPLIN.

For Sir Danvers Osborn Govʳ of New York.

And also were read the following papers from the Commissʳˢ of Indian affairs at Albany. vizᵗ

Albany, 15. June 1754.

At a Meeting of the Commissʳˢ of Indian Affairs at Mʳ Lutteridge's

PRESENT—Coll: Myndᵗ Schuyler, Robᵗ Saunders Esqʳᵉ Mayor of the City, Sybᵗ Van Schaak Esqʳᵉ Recorder, Captⁿ Hubert Marshall Commader of the Fort, Cornelius Cuyler, John Beekman, John Rentzelaar, Jacob Coenᵗ tenEyck, Peter Winne, Esquires,

Peter Wraxall, Secretary.

His Honʳ the Lieutᵗ Govʳ the Honᵇˡᵉ James de Lancey Esqʳᵉ having directed Coll. Myndᵗ Schuyler to convene the Commissʳˢ of Indian Affairs that they might consult together if they had any matters in particular to recommend to His Honour upon the approaching interview, with the Six Nations.

In consequence hereof the Commissʳˢ are of opinion, that the Six Nations who now live dispersed and confused, should in the most earnest manner be exhorted to unite and dwell together in their respective Castles, and that the Mohawk Nation should live in one Castle only.

That his honour apply to the Onondaga Indians in particular to direct and exhort them to live together in one Castle according to their ancient and prudent Custom, and to cause all their friends and Relations wherever dispersed to join them particularly those who have separated themselves, and live at present at Sweegassie[1] on the South side of the River Sᵗ Lawrence, to the Eastward of Cadaraghqui where the French have lately fortifyed, have a Garrison, and where a French Missionary constantly resides in order to draw them off from our alliance. At this Sweegassie the French have lately made a settlemᵗ of Indians belonging to the Six Nations of which the greatest part are from Onondaga and Cayouge.

That whereas the French have been long endeavouring to prevail on the Senecas to come and settle at Irondequat in order to have them nearer to their settlements, the more easily to effect their design of debauching them from the British interest, the Commissʳˢ are of opinion, that his Honʳ should insist on the Senecas, who at present live very remote from one another,

[1] Oswegatchie, now Ogdensburgh, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.—Ed.

to make a general Castle near the mouth of the Senecas River, where they have already begun to build a new Castle.—This point has been several times recommended to them by former Governors, and which they have faithfully promised to do, but have not hitherto effected.

The Commiss^{rs} are of opinion that the most effectual method to retain and secure the Six Nations to the British Interest, will be to build two Forts, one on the Onondaga, the other in the Senecas Country, and that each Fort be supplyed with a proper Missionary. They are further of opinion that the carrying and selling Rum in the Castles of the Six Nations is of the most pernicious consequence to the public interest of this Colony in particular and to the British Interest in general, with respect to our Indian connections.

The Commiss^{rs} are also of opnion that no Frenchman upon any pretence whatsoever, should be suffered to reside or Trade among the Six Nations, and that the Six Nations should be directed to send those Frenchmen away who now Trade or reside among them, and to warn them not to return. Those French Emissarys having always been of fatal consequence to the British interest amongst the Six Nations.—

Albany 18th June 1754.

At a meeting of the Commiss^{rs} of Indian affairs at the House of Robert Lutteridge.

PRESENT— Peter Winne, Mynd^{t} Schuyler,
Sybrant Van Schaak Recorder, John Beeckman,
Jacob Coen^{t} ten Eyck Esq^{rs}.
[Peter Wraxall, Secretary.]

His Honour the Lieut Govr having sent to Coll: Mynd^{t} Schuyler to know what he should do with regard to the River Indians at the approaching interview—Coll: Schuyler thought proper to convene the Commiss^{rs} that they might answer his honour upon this point.

They are of opinion, that after the Six Nations arrive in Town, it will be time enough to send a Message to the said River Indians.

Whereas divers complaints have been made to the Commiss^{rs} of Indian Affairs that the Indians at Chonoghoheere Castle, do forcibly take Rum from the Oswego Traders, in their passage by the said Castle; and also that the Onejda Indians oblige the Traders to let them carry their goods over the carrying place, and to pay them double, and sometimes more than double the Customary price which the Germans were ready and willing to take. It is the opinion therefore of this Board that His Honour be pleased at the approaching interview, to represent the injustice of these proceedings to the Six Nations, and that it is a breach of their promises so solemnly made, and a violation of their engagements entered into, and frequently renewed with former Governours.

A true Copy from the Records of Indian Affairs.

PETER WRAXALL Secr^{y} ettc.

A Remonstrance was then read to the Board from the Oswego Traders to His Honour the Lieut: Govr of New York, of which the following is a copy:

"To his Honour James deLancey Esqre Lieut: Govr and Commander in Chief of the Prov^ce of New York ettc.

We the Traders (or Handlers) to Oswego most humbly beg leave to remonstrate to your Honour the many hazards and difficulties we are subject to, in our passage thither from the ill treatment we meet with from the Indians i. e. in passing the Mohawks and Conajohary Castles; they board our Battoes, with axes, knives ettc and by forc take what Rum they think proper, hooping and yelping as if they Gloried in their depredations, and threatning Murder to any that oppose them, and on our arrival at the great carrying place the Oneida Indians force our goods from us at pleasure to carry over, and not content with making us pay a most exorbitant price, for each freight, but rob us of our Rum, stores and other goods, with a great deal of invective threatening language, and are generally so numerous that we are obliged to submit to those impositions, or run the risk of being murdered and robbed of every thing we have, and to put their schemes the better into execution they force away the High Germans, who generally attend with their horses, that we may be under a necessity of employing them, and paying whatsoever they please to demand.

We therefore humbly pray your honour, to take those our most severe grievances under due consideration, and fall upon such methods to redress them, as you in your great wisdom shall seem most expedient.

Accept of our most fervent prayers for welfare and prosperity, as we ever remain with all due defference, gratitude and esteem — Sir

Your Honour's most dutiful
and most humble servants.

Oswego June 1st 1754. (to which 47, several names were signed)

The following Gentlemen were appointed a Committee to prepare the draught of a general speech to be made by his Honour to the Indians. Namely: — William Johnson, Samuel Wells, Theodore Atkinson, Elisha Williams, Martin Howard Junr Isaac Norris, Benjamin Tasker Junr Esqre to whom were delivered the aforesaid papers.

[Adjourned till to Morrow Morning.]

At a meeting at the Court House in Albany on Thursday the 20th June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT — His Honour and the aforesaid Council of New York and several of the Commissioners.

The Committee appointed yesterday to prepare a draught of a general speech to be made to the Indians not being ready to make their Report [the Board] adjourned till to morrow morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Friday the 21st June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT— His Honr the Lieut Govr—
The Council of New York aforesaid,
All the Commissioners, and
Thomas Hutchinson Esqre one of the Commissrs of Massachusets Bay.

It was proposed by the Govr that to avoid all disputes about the precedency of the Colonies, they should be named in the Minutes according to their situation from North to South—which was agreed to.

Peter Wraxall Esqre was chosen Secretary to this Board.

The Committee delivered in their draught of the General Speech which was read thro' and afterwards paragraph by paragraph; objections were made to some parts, the Board not coming to any conclusion on the same they adjourned till to morrow morning.

At a meeting in the Court House at Albany on Saturday the 22d June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—The Council of New York aforesaid, and all the Commissioners except John Chandler Esqr one of the Commissrs for Massachusets Bay.

The Consideration of the draught of the General speech was resumed, and one being agreed upon Mr Hutchinson and Mr Peters were desired to wait upon the Lieutt Govr with the same.

Adjourned to Monday Morning.

At a meeting in the Court House at Albany on Monday the 24. June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—The Council of New York aforesaid and all the Commissioners.

A motion was made, that the thanks of this Board be given to the Revd Mr Peters, one of the Commissrs for Pensilvania, for his sermon preached yesterday and that he be desired to suffer the same to be printed.—which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr Chambers and Mr Peters were desired to wait upon his Honour, to request him to administer an Oath to Mr Wraxall for the due and faithful discharge of his Office of Secretary to this Board.—adjourned to three o'clock this afternoon.

At a meeting as aforesaid Monday afternoon the 24 June 1754.

PRESENT—His Honour the Lieutt Govr and the Council aforesd of the Province of New York and all the Commissrs

Mr Chambers and Mr Peters, Reported to the Board that Mr Wraxall had been swore into his Office by His Honour, comfortable[1] to their desire in the morning.

A motion was made, that the Commissrs deliver their opinion, whether a Union of all the Colonies is not at present absolutely necessary for their security and defence.

[1] *Sic.* conformable. Official Record in *Johnson's Manuscripts*, I.—Ed.

The question was accordingly put, and it passed in the affirmative unanimously.

His Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr made a proposal as a branch of the Indian Affairs under the considration of this Board, to build two Forts in the Indian Country to protect them, their Wives & children as the best expedient to secure their fidelity to His Majesty.—Which proposal the Board determined to proceed upon, after they had considered some Method of effecting the Union between the Colonies.

On a Motion that a Committee be appointed to prepare and receive Plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies, and to digest them into one general plan for the inspection of this Board.

Resolved, that each Govern^{t} chose one of their own number to be of that Committee.

Accordingly were appointed.

Thomas Hutchinson Esq: for Massachusets Bay.
Theodore Atkinson Esqr for New Hampshire.
William Pitkin Esq. for Conecticut.
Stephen Hopkins Esqr for Rhode Island
Benjamin Franklin Esqr for Pennsylvania.
Benjamin Tasker Esqr for Maryland

It was left to His Honour to appoint one of His Maj$^{ty's}$ Council for the Govern^{t} of New York, and he named William Smith Esqre.

Adjourned till to morrow morning at 11 o'clock

At a Meeting in the Court house at Albany on Tuesday the 25th June 1754. A. M.

Present—Joseph Murray William Johnson John Chambers	}	Esq^{rs} of the Council of N. York.
Richard Wibbard Meschech Weare Henry Sherburne	}	Esqrs Commiss^{rs} for N. Hampshire.
Samuel Wells. John Chandler Oliver Patridge John Worthington	}	Esqrs Commiss^{rs} for the Massachusets Bay.
Roger Wolcott Elisha Williams	}	Esq^{rs} Commiss^{rs} for Connecticut.
Martin Howard Junr		Esqr Commiss^{r} for Rhode Island.
John Penn Isaac Norris	}	Esq^{rs} Commiss^{rs} for Pennsylvania.
Abraham Barnes		Esqr Commiss^{r} for Maryland.

The draught of the General speech not being returned to the Board from His Honour the Lieut: Govr of New York, adjourned till five o'clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting as aforesaid, Tuesday the 25th June 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—All the Gentlemen of the Council of N. York and all the Commissioners.

Mr Murray delivered to the Board for their approbation His Honour's alterations & additions to the draught of the speech presented to His Honour by Mr Hutchinson and Mr Peters, the 22nd inst: which were read to the Board by the Secretary, and the further consideration thereof was deferred till to morrow morning.

adjourned till 11. o'clock to morrow morning

At a meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 26th June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—William Johnson and John Chambers Esqrs of the Council of New York.
Samuel Welles, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson and Oliver Patridge Esqrs Commissrs for Massachusets Bay.
William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott & Elisha Williams Esqrs Commissrs for Connecticut.
Martin Howard Junr Esqr a Commissn for Rhode Island.

The draught of the General speech, to the Six Nations was further debated, but not being fully concluded upon, the Board adjourned till 10 o'clock to morrow morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Thursday the 27th June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

The draught of the general speech was further debated, and not being fully concluded upon, the Board adjourned till 5 o'clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Thursday the 27. June 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

A motion was made that the Commissions or Powers from the several Governts should be made part of the Records of this Congress.

It was unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be prefixed to these Records.

The draught of the General Speech was settled, Read and unanimously approved of, & is as follows:

Brethren. I have invited you here by the command of the great King our Common Father, to receive a present from him, and in his name to renew the ancient Treaty between this and all his other Governts, and you our Brethren; and I have the pleasure to tell you, that by His Majty's order there are now present, Commissrs from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Virginia and Carolina likewise desire to be considered as present, altho' some great affairs which those Governts are engaged in, have prevented their sending Commissrs; we are glad to see our Brethren here in health, and heartily bid you welcome. A Belt.

Brethren. We condole your, and our loss in the death of some of your people since the last interview in this place, We wipe away all tears from your eyes, and take away sorrow from your hearts, that you may speak freely. 3. strings of Wampum.

Brethren, We come to strengthen and brighten the chain of friendship. It gives us great satisfaction, that you have lately added two links to the chain, the Shanihadaradighroones and the Tedderighroones, as it will always gives us pleasure to see your strength increased. This chain hath remained firm and unbroken from the beginning. This Belt will represent to you our disposition to preserve it strong and bright so long as the sun and moon shall endure and in the name of the Great King our Father, and in the behalf of all His Majᵗʸˢ Colonies, we now solemnly renew brighten and strengthen the ancient covenant Chain, and promise to keep the same inviolable and free from rust, and we expect the like confirmation and assurance on your part.— A Chain Belt

His Honour the Lieutᵗ Govʳ, explained this Chain Belt to them in the following manner:

Brethren. This represents the King our common Father—this line represents his arms extended, embracing all us the English and all the Six Nations—These represents the Colonies which are here present and those who desire to be thought present—These represents the Six Nations, and there is a space left to draw in the other Indians—And there in the middle is the line represented which draws us all in under the King our common Father."

The foregoing explanation having been given by His Honour at the time of his delivering the speech, doth not appear in the proceedings of the Congress, but stands in the Records of Indian Affairs and is therefore supplyed in this manner, [by]

(signed). Peter Wraxall Secr: for Ind: Aff:

Brethren. We are informed that you now live dispersed from each other contrary to the Ancient and prudent custom of your Forefathers; and as you are by this means exposed to the attempts of your Enemies, we therefore in the most earnest manner recommend to, and expect it from you, for your own safety, to collect yourselves together, and dwell in your National Castles; We desire you, brethren of the Onondaga Nation in particular to call in your Friends and relations to join you, especially those of your Nation who now lives at Osweegachio. A brave people separated from each other may easily fall a sacrifice, whereas united they may live secure and uninjured. A. Belt.

Brethren. We have some things to say to you of great importance. The Treatys, subsisting between us and you our Brethren, as well as the great affection we bear towards you, oblige us to mention it; The French profess to be in perfect friendship with us as well as you; notwithstanding this, they are making continual incroachments upon us both; they have lately done so, in the most insulting manner, both to the Northward and Westward. Your Fathers by their valour above one hundred years ago, gained a considerable Country, which they afterwards of their own accord put under the protection of the King of Great Brittain. The French are endeavouring to posess themselves of this whole Country, altho' they have made the most express Treaties with the English to the contrary.

Brethren. It appears to us that these measures of the French, must necessarily soon interrupt and destroy all Trade and intercourse between the English and the several Indian

Nations on the continent, and will block up and obstruct, the great roads which have hitherto lain open between you and your allies, and Friends who live at a distance.

We want to know whether these things appear to you in the same light as they do to us, or whether the French taking possession of the lands in your Country and building Forts between the Lake Erie, and the River Ohio, be done with your consent or approbation—

a large Belt.

Brethren. Open your hearts to us, deal with us as Brethren, we are ready to consult with you, how to scatter these Clouds that hang over us, this is a matter of so great weight that we think it best to defer mentioning any other affairs till you have considered this, least they should take away part of that attention which is necessary on so extraordinary an occasion.

A Belt.

adjourned till to morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Friday the 28th June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—John Chandler, Oliver Patridge & John Worthington Esqrs Commissrs for Massachusets Bay.
Richard Wibbird Meschech Weare and Henry Sherburne Esqrs Commissrs for New Hampshire.
Roger Wolcott and Elisha Williams Esqrs Commissrs for Connecticut.
Martin Howard Junr Esqr a Commissr for Rhode Island.
John Penn Esqr one of the Commissrs for Pennsylvania.

The Board adjourned till 5 o'clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting in the Court house at Albany Friday afternoon the 28th June 1754.

PRESENT—The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York
All the Commissrs from Massachusets Bay,
All the Commissrs from New Hampshire.
All the Commissrs from Connecticut,
Stephen Hopkins Esqr one of the Commissrs from Rhode Island.
John Penn, and Benjamin Franklin Esqrs from Pensilvania.
Benjamin Tasker Junr Esqr one of the Commissrs from Maryland.

The Committee appointed the 24th inst: to prepare and receive plans and schemes for the union of the Colonies, presented short hints of a scheme for that purpose of which copies were taken by the Commissrs of the respective provinces.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

At a Meeting at the Court house in Albany on Saturday the 29th June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—William Smith Esqr one of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

His Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr of New York having given notice to this Board that he was going to speak to the Indians, the Board adjourned till 5 o'clock this afternoon and attended his Honour while he delivered the speech.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Saturday the 29th June 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—Joseph Murray, John Chambers & Willm Smith Esq^{rs} of the Council of New York
All the Commiss^{rs} from Massachusets Bay
Theodore Atkinson and Richard Wibbird Esq^{rs} Commissioners for New Hampshire.
All the Commiss^{rs} from Connecticut.
The Commiss^{rs} from Rhode Island.
All the Commiss^{rs} from Pennsylvania
The Commiss^{rs} from Maryland.

The Board being informed that a considerable Number of Indians from Stock bridge, being of the Nation known by the name of the River Indians were in Town, a motion was made that his Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr might be acquainted with the circumstances of said Indians and desired to give orders for their support.

The said Motion was agreed to, and Mr Welles and Mr Franklin were appointed to wait on his Honour accordingly. The hints of a scheme for the Union of the Colonies were debated on, but come to no conclusion.

Adjourned to Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

At a Meeting at the Court house at Albany on Monday the 1st July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—The Lieut^{t} Govr and the four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.
All the Commiss^{rs} for Massachusets Bay except John Chandler Esqr
Theodore Atkinson and Henry Sherburne Esq^{rs} Commiss^{rs} for New Hampshire.
The Commiss^{rs} for Connecticut.
The Commiss^{rs} for Rhode Island.
All the Commiss^{rs} for Pennsylvania
The Commiss^{rs} for Maryland.

Mr Franklin reported to the Board that he had with Mr Welles (Mr Welles was not then present) waited on the Lieut^{t} Govr, and delivered the Message from the Board of Saturday last, relating to the River Indians living near Stock bridge, and that his Honour, was pleased to answer that he had not sent for those Indians, that he had consulted his Council, and

enquired of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, and was informed that it had never been usual to afford subsistance to those Indians at any Treaty in Albany, that it was a great expence to New York to maintain the other Indians, that those properly belonged to Massachusets Bay Govern^{t} and it appeared to him, that they should be supported by that Govern^{t}.

Upon a Motion, the Records of Indian affairs of New York were sent for, and it appeared that the River Indians have usually been present at the Treaties with the Six Nations, and that a speech has always been made to the said River Indians, and it was moved to the Lieut^{t} Governour of New York that he would now speak to them in the name of the Commiss^{rs} from the several Colonies, and also give orders for their support.

His Honour agreed to the proposal of speaking to them, and offered to give orders for their support but was pleased to say that he expected the Commiss^{rs} for the several provinces would contribute to the charge of it.

His Honour delivered to the Board copys of two Minutes of Council which are as follows:

At a Council held in the City of Albany the 27th June 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—The Honble James de Lancey Esqr Lieut^{t} Govern^{r}
Mr Murray, Coll: Johnson, Mr Chambers, Mr Smith.

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpretor that the lower Castle of the Mohawk Indians now in this City, had some business to lay before him, and desired to be admitted to an Audience, appointed them to attend at 4 o'clock this afternoon, in Council, and they attending accordingly, were introduced with the Interpreter.

The Govr told them he was very glad to see them, that he was now met in Council & ready to hear what they had to say.

Whereupon Canadagara their Speaker addressing himself to his honour spoke as follows:

Brother. We are here this day by God's will, and your Honour's order, to which place you have led us as it were by the hand; this is our old meeting place, where if we have any grievances, we can lay them open. You are lately come to the Administration, and we are glad to see you, to lay our complaints before you. We take it very kind, you have given us this opportunity to unfold our minds, and we will now proceed to declare our grievances.

Brother. We shall now open our minds, and we beg you will take time to consider what we shall say, and not give us too hasty an answer, or in two or three words, and then turn your back upon us. As you are a new Govr we beg you will treat us tenderly, and not as the former Govr did, who turned his back upon us, before we knew he intended to depart, so that we had no opportunity to finish our business with him. The reason, we wish you would treat us in this tender manner, is, because this is the place where we are to expect a redress of our grievances, and we hope all things will be so settled that we may part good friends.

Brother. We told you a little while ago, that we had an uneasiness on our minds, and we shall now tell you what it is; it is concerning our land. We understand that there are writings for all our lands, so that we shall have none left but the very spot we live upon and hardly that; we have examined amongst the elderly people, who are now present, if they have sold any of it, who deny that they ever have, and we earnestly desire, that you will take this into consideration, which will give us great satisfaction, and convince us that you have a friendship

for us; we dont complain of those who have honestly bought the land they possess, or those to whom we have given any, but of some who have taken more than we have given them; We find we are very poor, we [thought we] had yet land round about us, but it is said there are writings for it all. It is one condition of the ancient Covenant chain, that if there be any uneasiness on either side, or any request to be made, that they shall be considered with a brotherly regard, and we hope you will fulfill that condition on your side, as we shall be always ready to on ours; we have embraced this opportunity of unbosoming ourselves to you, with regard to our Castle, and we are well assured that the other Castle of the Mohawks, have complaints of the same nature to make, when they come down. We have now declared our grievances, and the Conajoharys will declare theirs, but that we shall leave to them. By this Belt we desire you to consider what we have said, and by the same we inform you that the Five Nations, have some things to say to you before you speak to them. Gave a Belt.

The Govr said:

You have now unbosomed yourselves to me, & desire I would seriously consider of what you have said, and not give you a hasty answer.

I will consider of it seriously, and you shall always find me ready to redress any of your Grievances as far as it may by in my power. But your complaints are general, I must therefore desire you to tell me, where those lands lye and the Names of the persons of whom you complain.

To which the Speaker answered:

Brother. We are told, a large Tract of land has been taken up called Kayadarosseras, beginning at the half Moon, and so up along Hudson's River to the third fall, and thence to the Cacknowaga or Canada-creek, which is about four or five miles above the Mohawks, which upon enquiry among our old Men we cannot find was ever sold, and as to the particular persons, many of them live in this Town, but there are so great a Number we cannot name them.

The Govr said:

I will send for some of the Patentees or the persons claiming that land, and hear what they have to say, and consider the matter and give you an answer before you leave this place. It is agreable to Justice to hear both parties, before a judgement is given; and to manifest my friendship for you, I will do you all the Justice in my power.—

A true copy exam^{d} by G. Banyar D. C. of the Council

At a Council held in the City of Albany the 28th June 1754.

Present—The Honble James De Lancey Esqr Lieut^{t} Govr ettc.
Mr Murray, Coll: Johnson, Mr Chambers Mr Smith.

His Honour being informed that the Conajohary or the upper Castle of the Mohawk Indians, and several Sachims of each of the other five Nations, attended without, and desired to speak to him, they were introduced with the Interpretor.

Hendrick their Speaker spoke as follows:

Brother. We had a message from you some time ago, to meet you at this place where the fire burns; we of Conajahary met the Messenger you sent with a letter at Coll: Johnson's, and as soon as we received it, we came down running, and the Six Nations are now here compleat.

The Govr said:

Brethren of the Six Nations you are welcome. I take this opportunity now you are all together to condole the loss in the death of your friends and relations, since you last met here, and with this string of Wampum, I wipe away your tears, and take sorrow from your hearts, that you may open your minds and speak freely. A String of Wampum.

Hendrick replyed:

Brother. We thank you for condoling our loss, and wiping away our tears, that we may speak freely, and as we do not doubt, but you have lost some of your great Men and friends, we give you this string of condolence in return that it may remove your sorrow, and that we may both speak freely. Gave a string.

Then Hendrick addressing himself to the Six Nations said: That last year he attended Coll: Johnson to Onondaga, to do service to the King and their people; that Coll: Johnson told them a New Govr was expected soon, and they would then have an opportunity of seeing him at Albany, and laying their grievances before him.

That the New Govr arrived soon after and scarcely had they heard of his arrival but they had an account of his death, and that now he was glad to see his Honour, to whom he would declare his grievances—and then proceeded.

Brother. We thought you would wonder why we of Connajohary staid so long, we shall now give you the reason. Last Summer we of Connajohary were down at New York to make our complaints, and we then thought the Covent Chain was broken, because we were neglected; and when you neglect business, the French take advantage of it, for they are never quiet.

It seemed to us that the Govr had turned his back upon the Five Nations, as if they were no more, whereas the French are doing all in their power to draw us over to them.

We told the Govr last summer, we blamed him for the neglect of the Five Nations, and at the same time we told him, the French were drawing the Five Nations away to Osweegachie owing to that neglect, which might have been prevented, if proper use had been made of that warning, but now we are affraid it is too late. We remember how it was in former times when we were a strong and powerful people, Coll: Schuyler used frequently to come among us, and by this means we were kept together.

Brother. We the Mohawks are in very difficult circumstances, and are blamed for things behind our backs which we dont deserve. Last Summer when we went up with Coll: Johnson to Onondaga, and he made his speech to the Five Nations, the Five Nations said, they liked his speech very well, but that the Mohawks had made it. We are looked upon by the other Nations, as Coll: Johnson's Councellors, and supposed to hear all news from him, which is not the case; for Coll: Johnson does not receive from, or impart much news to us; this is our reason for staying behind, for if we had come first, the other Nations would have said, that we made the Govrs speech, and therefore tho' we were resolved to come, we intended the other nations should go before us, that they might hear the Govrs speech, which we could hear afterwards.

. There are some of our People who have large open Ears and talk a little broken English and Dutch, so that they sometimes hear what is said by the Christian settlers near them, and

by this means we came to understand, that we are looked upon to be a proud Nation, and therefore staid behind. Tis true, and known we are so, and that we the Mohawks are the head of all the other Nations; here they are, and they must own it; but it was not out of pride we Connajoharys staid behind, but for the reasons we have already given.

His Honour answered:

Brethren of Connajohary.—You have now told me the reason why you stayed behind, because you would not be blamed, by the other Nations as you have been before. I am satisfyed with what you say, that your staying behind did not proceed from pride.

You tell me you have large open Ears, and that some of you understand a little of the language of the settlers about you, but I must caution you not to hearken to common reports, neither of us or your Brethren of the other Nations; I desire that we may all speak freely, and open our hearts to each other, and so remove any jealousies from amongst us.

I hope that at another interview, you will all be more punctual, and keep as near as you can to the time appointed. You are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me and the Commiss^{rs} from the other Govern^{ts} to be detained so long in this place, at so great a distance from our homes.

a true copy, Exam^{d} by G. Banyar. [D. C. of ye C^{l}.]

A motion was made that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a representation of the present state of the Colonies. Which was agreed to, and that the Gentlemen who were appointed to prepare and receive Plans or Schemes for the union of the Colonies the 24th: ult: should be a Committee for this purpose.

The plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated but the Board came to no resolves upon it.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to morrow morning.

At a meeting in the Court House at Albany on Tuesday the 2nd July 1754. A. M.

Present—All the Commiss^{rs} from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

After the debates held on the plan of an Union, it was moved; if the Board should proceed to form the plan of a Union of the Colonies, to be establised by an Act of Parliament.

Whereupon it was move[d] to put the previous question, which passed in the negative.

The Question was then put, whether the Board should proceed to form a plan of a Union of the Colonies to be established by [an] Act of Parliam^{t} which passed in the affirmative.

adjourned to 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

At a meeting as aforesaid on Tuesday the 2nd July 1754. P. M.

Present—The Lieut^{t} Govr and the four Gentl^{n} of the Council of New York and All the Commiss^{rs} from the several Govern^{ts} above mentioned.

The answer of the Six Nations to the general speech made to them on Saturday last by His Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr of New York, in His Maj$^{ty's}$ name, and in the presence and behalf of the several Govern^{ts} on the continent therein named, was read and is as follows:

Abraham, a Sachem of the upper Castle of the Mohawks rose up and said.

Brethren.—You the Govr of New York and the Commissrs of the other Governts are you ready to hear us?

The Govr replyed they were all ready.

Then Hendrick brother to the said Abraham, & a Sachem of the said Castle, rose up, and spoke on behalf of the Six Nations as follows:

Brethren—Just now you told us, you were ready to hear us, hearken to me.

Brother Corlaer, and brothers of the other Governts

Saturday last you told us that you came here by order of the Great King our common Father, and in his name, to renew the ancient chain of friendship between this and the other Governts on the Continent and us, the Six united Nations; and you said also that there were then present, Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland, and that Virginia and Carolina desired to be considered also as present.

We rejoyce that by the King's Orders we are all met here this day, and are glad to see each other face to face; We are very thankful for the same, and we look upon the Govrs of South Carolina & Virginia as also present. Gave a Belt.

Brethren. We thank you in the most hearty manner for your condolence to us, we also condole all your friends and Relations, who have died since our last meeting here.

Gave 3. strings of Wampum.

Brethren. (holding the Chain Belt given by his Honour and the several Governts in his hand) We return you all our grateful acknowledgements for renewing and brightening the covenant Chain. This Chain Belt is of very great importance to our united Nations, and all our Allies, we will therefore take it to Onondaga, where our Council Fire always burns, and keep it so securely that neither Thunder nor Lightning shall break it; there we will consult over it, and as we have lately added two links it, so we will use our endeavours to add as many more [links] to it as lyes in our power; and we hope when you show this Belt again, we shall give you reason to rejoyce at it, by your seeing the vacancys in it filled up (referring to His Honour's explanations of it in the general speech) In the mean time we desire, that you will strengthen yourselves, and bring as many into this Covenant Chain as you possibly can.—

We do now solemnly renew and brighten the Covenant Chain with our Brethren here present, and all our other absent Brethren on the Continent.

Brethren. As to the accounts you have heard of our living dispersed from each other 'tis very true.

We have several times endeavoured to draw off those our Brethren who are settled at Osweegatie but in vain, for the Govr of Canada is like a wicked deluding spirit; however, as you desire we shall persist in our endeavours.

Your have asked us the reason of our living in this dispersed manner. The reason is, your neglecting us for these three years past (then taking a stick and throwing it behind his back) you have thus thrown us behind your back, and disregarded us, whereas the French are a subtle and vigilant people, ever using their utmost endeavours to seduce and bring our people over to them.— Gave a Belt.

Brethren. As to the encroachments of the French, and what you have said to us on that article in behalf of the King our Father, as these matters were laid before us as of great importance, so we have made a strickt enquiry amongst all our people, if any of them have either sold or given the French leave to build the Forts you mention, and we can not find that either any sale has been made, or leave has been given, but the French have gone thither without our consent or approbation nor ever mentioned it to us.

Brethren.—The Govr of Virginia, and the Govr of Canada are both quarrelling about lands which belong to us, and such a quarel as this may end in our destruction; they fight who shall have the land. The Gov^{rs} of Virginia and Pennsylvania have made paths thro' our Country to Trade and built houses without acquainting us with it, they should first have asked our consent to build there, as was done when Oswego was built.— Gave a Belt.

Brethren. It is very true as you told us that the Clouds hang heavy over us, and 'tis not very pleasant to look up, but we give you this Belt (giving a Belt) to clear away all Clouds that we may all live in bright sunshine, and keep together in strict union and friendship; then we shall become strong and nothing can hurt us.

Brethren. This is the ancient place of Treaty where the Fire of Friendship always used to burn, and 'tis now three years since we have been called to any publick Treaty here; Tis true there are Commiss^{rs} here, but they have never invited us to smoak with them, (by which they mean the Commiss^{rs} had never invited them to any conference), but the Indians of Canada, come frèquently and smoak here, which is for the sake of their Beaver, but we hate them (meaning the French Indians) we have not as yet confirmed the peace with them. *Tis your fault Brethren that we are not strengthened by conquest, for we would have gone and taken Crown Point, but you hindered us; we had concluded to go and take it, but we were told it was too late, and that the Ice would not bear us; instead of this, you burnt your own Forts at Seraghtoga and run away from it, which was a shame & a scandal to you. Look about your Country & see, you have no Fortifications about you, no, not even to this City, tis but one Step from Canada hither, and the French may easily come and turn you out of your doors.*

Brethren. You desire us to speak from the bottom of our hearts, and we shall do it. Look about you and see all these houses full of Beaver, and the money is all gone to Canada, likewise powder, lead and guns, which the French now make use of at Ohio.

Brethren. The goods which go from hence to Oswego, go from thence to Ohio which further enables the French to carry on their designs at the Ohio.

Brethren. You were desirous that we should open our minds, and our hearts to you; look at the French, they are Men, they are fortifying everywhere—but, we are ashamed to say it, you are all like women bare and open without any fortifications.

Here Hendrick ended his speech, his Brother Abraham then rose up & said:

Brethren. We would let you know, what was our desire three years ago when Coll: Johnson laid down the management of Indian Affairs, which gave us great uneasiness; the Govr then told us, it was not in his power to continue him, but that he would consult with the Council at New York, that he was going over to England and promised to recommend our desire that Coll: Johnson should have the management of Indian Affairs to the King, that the new Govr might have power to reinstate him; we long waited in expectation of this being done, but hearing no more of it, we embrace this opportunity of laying this Belt (& gave a Belt) before all our Brethren here present, and desire them that Coll: Johnson may be reinstated and have

the Management of Indian Affairs, for we all lived happy, whilst they were under his management, for we love him, and he us, and he has always been our good, and trusty Friend.

Brethren. I forgot something. We think our request about Coll: Johnson, which Govr Clinton promised to carry to the King our Father is drowned in the sea. The fire here is burnt out, and (turning his face to the New York Commiss^rs of Indian Affairs at Albany who were there present) desired them to take notice of what he said.

Which answer from the Indians was debated paragraph by paragraph, and those Gentlemen who were appointed a Committee to prepare a General speech the 19th ult: were now appointed to draw up a reply.

Adjourned till to morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 3rd July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—John Chambers and William Smith Esq^rs of the Council of New York.
Samuel Welles, John Chandler and Oliver Patridge Esq^rs Commiss^rs from Massachusets Bay.
Theodore Atkinson and Richard Wibbird Esq^rs Commiss^rs from New Hampshire
[The Commissioners from Connecticutt]
Martin Howard [Junr] Esqre a Commiss^r from Rhode Island.
All the Commiss^rs from Pennsylvania.
Benjamin Tasker Esqr one of the Commiss^rs from Maryland.

A draught of the reply proposed to be made to the speech of the 6 Nations of the 1st inst which the Committee appointed yesterday afternoon had drawn up, was read.

Mr Chambers desired to carry it to His Honour the Lieut^t Govr for his opinion — which was agreed to.

Took their seats at the Board.

His Honour the Lieut^t Govr
Joseph Murray and William Johnson Esq^rs of the Council of New York.
Thomas Hutchinson and John Worthington Esq^rs Commiss^rs for Massachusetts Bay.
Meschech Weare and Henry Sherburn Esq^rs Commiss^rs for New Hampshire.
Stephen Hopkins Esqr one of the Commiss^rs for Rhode Island.
Abraham Barnes Esqr one of the Commiss^rs from Maryland.

His Honour laid before the Board several[1] matters, which he proposed to be inserted in the Reply to be made to the Six Nations, which together with the draught from the Committee was read and debated.

The Commiss^rs from Pennsylvania also laid before the Board an addition in behalf of their province and proposed it to be added to the Reply. The Commiss^rs from Massachusets, New Hampshire and Connecticut, proposed also some additions.

These several draughts being read & considered the following reply to the Six Nations was agreed upon by the Board.

[1] certain. *Johnson Manuscripts*, I. — ED.

Brethren. It gives us great pleasure to see you so ready to renew and brighten the ancient Chain of friendship, we wish the further extention of it, and shall not fail joyning our utmost endeavours for that purpose.

Brethren. We are [very] sorry that any neglect has been shewn to you, and we hope that nothing of that kind will happen hereafter, or any misunderstanding arise between you and any of his Majᵗʸ's Governᵗ. You are our old and steady friends, we assure you not one thought has ever come into our minds of rejecting you, our hearts have ever been warm towards you, and we now gladly meet and open our hearts to you. The Covenant is renewed, the Chain is brightened, the Fire burns clear, and we hope all things will be pleasant on both sides for the future. A Belt.

Brethren. We gladly understand that you gave no countenance to the French, who went to Ohio, and have entered on your lands, they are always your and our open or secret Enemies; you did put this land under the King our Father, he is now taking care to preserve it for you; for this end, among others, he has directed us to meet you here, for although, the land is under the King's Governᵗ, yet the property or power of selling it to any of his Majᵗʸ's subjects having authority from him, we always consider as vested in you.

Brethren. You say that the Govʳ of Virginia and Canada, are fighting about lands belonging to you, and the Govᵐ of Virginia & Pennsylvania have opened new roads and built houses at Ohio.

What you say, is a great surprise to us. We all know that for five years past, in the face of all the six Nations in open daylight, the French have been marching Troops into that Country, which we ever did, and do still acknowledge to belong to you, tho' within your Father the King of Great Brittain's Dominions, and under his protection, & the French did publish every where, their designs to build Forts and drive away the English Traders, and they did carry them into execution by seizing the Traders, and did last year actually build two Forts in that Country.

But we never heard notwithstanding these open Hostilities of the French, that ever Virginia or Pennsylvania, sent one Soldier or built one house for their or your protection, till this present year.

It is fortunate that Mʳ Weiser who transacts the publick business of Virginia & Pennsylvania [with your Nations] and is one of your Council and knows these matters well, is now present, hear the account he gives, and that will set this matter in a true light.

Mʳ Weiser was to say as follows:

Brethren. The Road to Ohio is no new Road; [it is an old and frequented Road;] the Shawanese and Delawares removed thither above thirty years ago from Pennsylvania; ever since which that Road has been travelled by our Traders at their invitation, and always with safety, until within these few years, that the French with their usual faithlessness, sent armies there, threatened the Indians and obstructed our trade with them.

The Govʳ of Virginia observing these hostilities in time of full peace, sent His Majᵗʸ an account of them; his Majᵗʸ was pleased to order his Govʳ to hold an interview with the Six Nations to consult measures with them, how to put a stop to these French proceedings, equally injurious to them, as to his subjects, and that they might better know them.

It was thought the interview might best be held at some place near the Country where these hostile proceedings were carried on; His Majᵗʸ likewise ordered a present to the Six Nations,

as a further token of his affection for them. Accordingly Mr Weiser in 1750. was sent to Onondaga by the Govr of Virginia, and invited the Indians to come, and treat at Fredericksburgh in that Province, and receive the King's present, but could not prevail. The Govr of Virginia finding the French still continuing their hostilities sent Commissrs in 1751. to the Indians at Ohio, and delivered them the King's present, and by a Belt of Wampum proposed, that a strong house might be built near the mouth of the Mohongahela, for their mutual protection; the Indians made answer, that they were well pleased with the proposal, and would send that Belt to Onondaga, and joyn one of their own to it. Nothing was heard of this Belt, and the last year the French invaded the Country of Ohio, with a strong hand, whereupon the Indians residing there, your flesh & blood, sent repeated messages to the Govr of Virginia, to send his young Men to their Assistance, but he being a person of great forethought and prudence still forbore to do it, and instead thereof sent two Messages by Mr Andrew Mentour, to Onondaga, for your advice how to act. It happened that no Council could be called at either time, the Chiefs of Onondaga, desired Mr Mentour to tell their Brother the Govr of Virginia, to act cautiously, and let the French strike the first blow.

The French then coming nearer and nearer, Tanacharisson (otherwise called the Half King) was sent to them by the united Nations at Ohio, together with the Shawanese and Delawares to forewarn them off their land, in the mean time other chiefs of these several Nations came to Virginia and Pennsylvania, and told us what they had agreed upon, in Council, to wit: that they, the rest of the Chiefs should come to us and desire us to call our people from over the Aleghany Hills, to prevent bloodshed between the English and French; but when these Indians returned, and found that the French paid no regard to their warning, but told them positively, that if they opposed their taking posession of that Country, they would cut them off, they sent repeated Messages to the Govrs of Pennsylvania and Virginia, to apprize them of their, the Indians immediate danger, telling them they would find nothing but the ashes of their houses and their bones, if they did not forthwith send warriours and build them a house to fly to, having a late example before their eyes, in, that the French had fallen upon their brethren the Tweeghtwees on a sudden and killed them in their houses as well as some English who were then Trading with them.

On this melancholy account the Govr of Virginia agreable to the request of the Indians sent people to build a house at the mouth of Mohongahela, but before they had finished it, the French came down the River, with a Thousand Men and 18 cannon, and told the people who were building it, and were but forty four in number, that they might[1] either fight or give up posession, which last they were obliged to do, on account of the superior force of the French.

Brethren. This is the truth, which we have thought proper to relate so particularly, that the prudent and cautious conduct of Virginia might be known to the Six Nations. As to Pennsylvania, they have never sent a warriour, or built a Fort at Ohio. This Belt is given to confirm what is said, and that you may remember what has been now related to you. A Belt.

Here Mr Weiser's relation ends.

Brethren. You told[2] us we are open and defenceless, we are consulting how far it will be necessary to fortify our frontiers, at the same time we expect you take care to keep your people from going over to the French.

[1] must. *Johnson Manuscripts*, I. [2] tell. *Ibid.* — Ed.

We are able when united with you to resist any force the French and their Allies, can bring against us.

(The following paragraphs were to be spoken by the Govr of New York in his own name)

Brethren. You have told me, that this is the place of Treaty; that 'tis now three years ago since you were asked to smoake a pipe here; that there are Commiss^{rs} but they have never invited you to smoak with them.

It was their duty on their appointment to acquaint you with it, and to invite you to smoak with them to rekindle the fire, which was then almost extinguished, and if they had done it earlier, and before I sent them directions it would have been very agreable to me.

Brethren. You say the houses here are full of Beaver; this is a Trading place, and the Merchants have a right to traffick for Beaver or other skins, which they sometimes pay for in goods and sometimes in money, but as to what you say about Guns, and powder being sold to the French, I have made all the enquiry I could into this matter, and am assured you are misinformed, for that neither guns nor powder are sold by any persons here to the French.

Brethren.—You tell me that whilst Coll: Johnson had the management of Indian affairs you all lived happy, that you loved him and he you, and that he has always been your good and Trusty friend; I am very sensible you had good reason to look upon him, in this light and fully convinced that he is still your Friend, but as this is the place where the ancient fire was kindled which was nearly burnt out, & as Coll: Johnson for some reasons declined the management of Indian Affairs, it was thought proper to rekindle the fire here, by appointing Commiss^{rs} whom I shall direct to receive and consult with you, upon all business that may concern our mutual interests, and [I] expect that you will for the future apply to them according to the Custom of your forefathers, to tell your news, and in return to receive from them what shall be thought necessary to be imparted to you, and I will give them directions that they treat you, with the affection due to you as Brethren. I will make tryal of them another year, and if you do not meet with the kind treatment you have a right to expect, complain to this Govern^{t} and effectual measures shall be taken for your satisfaction. Gave a Belt.

(The following was to be spoken by Mr Killogg I[n]terpreter from Massachusets Bay).

Brethren. We have agreed to tell all News, & take Council together, we can not part till we have told you the News from New England, tho' at a considerable distance from you, The French have the same bad designs there, as well as at Ohio, they are very fond to get Kennybeck River; we have news of their beginning a Fort at the head of that River; a priest of theirs has built a house a great way down that River, Governour Shirley has raised 800 Men, and is gone down to drive them away and to build an English Fort at the head or far up the said River Kennybeck. We have news also that the French are building a Fort up Conecticut River, northward of Cowass; the Govr of New Hampshire has now sent a Comp^{y} of Men up that River to enquire into that fact, and if true to drive them immediately off. In another part of the Govern^{t} of New Hampshire a number of the St Francis Indians, have lately taken a family consisting of a Man and his wife and three Children, and carryed them into captivity from an out settlement on Merrismack River, and this contrary to their solemn engagements at a Treaty held with them.

We have also news that a number of Indians had murdered twenty one English Fishermen at Canso, and had carried their Scalps, to Cape Breton where they were well received, and 'tis said rewarded.

The Board then adjourned till to morrow morn^{g} at 9 o'clock.

At a meeting in the Court house at Albany on Thursday the 4th July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York
All the Commiss^{rs} for the several Govern^{ts}

The plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated but nothing finally determined on—adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon.

At a meeting as above on Thursday the 4th July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—All the Commiss^{rs} for the several Govern^{ts}

The plan for a Union was further considered but no resolves made thereupon.

The Board receiving a message from His Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr of New York, that the Indians were seated in order to speak to his Honour and the Commiss^{rs} the Board adjourned to 9 o'clock to morrow morning and waited upon the Govr.

At a meeting in the Court house at Albany on Friday the 5th July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—All the Commiss^{rs} for the several Govern^{ts}

The rejoinder of the Six Nations spoke yesterday afternoon was read, to the Board and ordered to be minuted as follows: (The following speech is chiefly a Rejoinder to the reply made to the Six Nations on the 3rd inst:)

Brother of New York—Brethren of the several Govern^{ts}.—We on our side are equally as much rejoiced as you have expressed yourselves on the renewing and brightening the ancient covenant chain between all His Maj^{ys} Govern^{ts} on the continent and us of the Six United Nations.

As to what the Govr of New York told us yesterday relating to the Commiss^{rs} of Indian affairs at Albany, we are much obliged to him for his promise to direct them to take due notice of us for the future, that he will try them for one year longer, and for giving us leave to acquaint this Govern^{t}, if they do not treat us as Brethren.

Brethren. We have told the Govr of New York how Coll: Johnson has behaved to us, and our opinion of him, and the danger we thought ourselves in by his leaving off the management of Indian Affairs, if he fails us, we die—however we agree to what the Govr has proposed to us—he is Master of all to do what he pleases, and we submit the whole affair to him.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren. We are very thankful to the King our Father for ordering Commiss^{rs} from so many Govern^{ts} to meet here in order to enquire into all matters relating to us and to put every

thing upon [a] right footing. We rejoice that we have opened our hearts to each other, and we return the Govr and all the Commissrs from the several Governts our thanks for the same.

Brethren. Some time ago the King our Father sent a present to the Govr of Virginia, who sent a Messenger to the Six Nations that we should come down to Virginia and receive it, but we could not come; we have since been informed that the present was sent to Ohio (the speaker then proceeded to repeat the substance of what was said to them yesterday on the part of the Governts of Virginia and Pennsylvania by their Interpreter Mr Weiser.) We allow that the Road from Pennsylvania to Ohio is no new Road, but has been travelled these thirty years by the Traders.

We thank the Govr of Virginia for assisting the Indians at Ohio, who are our Brethren[1] & Allies, and we approve of the Govr of Pennsylvania's not having hitherto intermeddled in this affair, he is a wise and prudent Man, and will know his own time.

We return the Govr of New York, and all the other Governts our most hearty thanks (here the Speaker made bows to his Honour and all the Commissrs) for the promise of protection given us, of our lands, and the acknowledgement that the right of selling it is in us.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren. *We put you in mind in our former speech of the defenceless state of your Frontiers, particularly of this City* [, *of Schenectady*] *and of the Country of the Five Nations. You told us yesterday you were consulting about securing both, yourselves & us. We beg you will resolve upon something speedily. You are not safe from danger one day. The French have their hatchet in their hands, both, at Ohio and in two places in New England. We dont know but this very night they may attack us. One of the principal reasons why we desire, you will be speedy in these matters is, that since Coll: Johnson has been in this City, there has been a French Indian at his house, who took measure of the wall round it and made very narrow observations on every thing thereabouts. We think him (Coll: Johnson) in very great danger, because the French will take more than ordinary pains either to kill him, or to take him prisoner, upon account of his great interest among us, and being also one of the Five Nations* (Coll: Johnson is one of their Sachems). Upon this they gave four strings of Wampum.

(The Board having ordered this Rejoynder of the Six Nations to be only so far recorded in their proceeding, the remainder of their said rejoynder is by order of his Honour the Lieutt Govr supplied after this manner from the Records of Indian Affairs, that these proceedings of the Congress may compleat all that passed at the publick conferences with the Indians. The remainder of their said speech is as follows:)

Brethren. There is an affair about which our hearts tremble and our minds are deeply concerned; this is the selling of Rum in our Castles. It destroys many both, of our old and young people. We request of all the Governts here present, that it may be forbidden to carry any of it amongst the Five Nations.

Brethren. We are in great fears about this Rum, it may cause murder on both sides. We dont want it to be forbid to be sold us in Albany, but that none may be brought to our Castles. The Cayouges now declare in their own name, that they will not allow any Rum to be brought up their River, and those who do must take the consequences.

Brethren. We the Mohawks of both Castles have also one request to make, which is, that the people who are settled round about us may not be suffered to sell our people Rum; it keeps them all poor, makes them idle & wicked; if they have any money or goods they lay

[1] Relations. *Johnson Manuscripts*, I. — Ed.

it all out in Rum, it destroys virtue and the progress of Religion amongst us. (the lower Castle of the Mohawks have a Chapel and an English Missionary belonging to it).

We have a friendly request to make to the Govr and all the Commissrs here present, that they will help us to build a Church at Connojohary, and that we may have a Bell in it, which together with the putting a stop to the selling of Rum, will tend to make us Religious and lead better lives than we do now.

Brethren. We have now fully opened our hearts to you except about the land belonging to the Cannojoharys which caused us to go down to New York last year. The Govr knows what our complaint is, and we now desire to know, when that affair will be settled, as it was promised that satisfaction should be given us on that article.

Here Hendrick ended his speech.

Mr Penn one of the Commissrs from Pennsylvania, declared that himself in conjunction with the other Commissrs for that Governt were about purchasing from the Six Nations a tract of land within the boundaries of the said Governt below the lattitude 42°; and the Indians also then published their intention of making the said sale at the Commissrs Lodgings.

The Govr spoke to the Indians and told them: That as to what they had said about Rum, he would give them an answer to morrow morning, that he had received a present for them from the King their Father, and another from this Governt, which he would give him to morrow morning, when he would also give them an answer to those other particulars which require one. As I have given you satisfaction with respect to one of your complaints about your land, and you have consented that an enquiry into any other shall be deferred until I arrive at N. York, I shall not now say anything further to you on that affair. (Extracted from the Records of Indian Affairs by me Peter Wraxall—Secry).

The Board then proceeded to consider the plan for a Union, but did not go thro' with it. adjourned to 9 o'clock to morrow morning.

At a Meeting held in the Court house at Albany on Saturday the 6th July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—All the Commissrs for Massachusets Bay
William Pitkin and Roger Wolcott Esqrs Commissrs for Connecticut—
The Commissrs for Rhode Island.—
John Penn, Isaac Morris,[1] & Benjamin Franklin Esqrs Commissrs for Pennsylvania.
The Commissrs for Maryland.

His Honour the Lieutt Govr sent to the Board the speech he proposed to make to the River Indians, which the Board agreed to with a small addition, which was sent in writing to his Honour.

The Board having been informed by Mr Peters "that the Lieutt Govr of New York sent for "him last night, and told him, his provisions were expended, and he could no longer maintain "the Indians, and expected the Commissrs would maintain them, and gave him the list of what "had been allowed pr day to the Five Nations, exclusive of the River Indians" The Board

[1] Norris. *Johnson Manuscripts*, I.—Ed.

thereupon resolved: that they would take the charge of supporting the Indians upon themselves.

Meshech Weare and Henry Sherburne Esq^{rs} Commiss^{rs} for New Hampshire took their seats.

The Committee appointed the 1st inst: to draw up a representation of the present State of the Colonies with relation to the French delivered the same to the Board, which was read, & ordered to lay upon the Table for the consideration of the Commiss^{rs}

The Secretary presented to the Board a draught of the speech which his Honour proposed to deliver to the Six Nations this afternoon, and also the following Message from his Honour: "that the Board would please to send him any alterations or additions which they might think "proper to be made to the said draught—that his Honour, intended when he made the "speech, to read to them the Act of the General Assembly of New York concerning the sale "of Rum to the Indians, and that he also recommended the request of the upper Castle of "the Mohawks for a Church to the Board."—

The Secretary also brought back his Honour's approbation to the small addition proposed to be made to the speech intended to be made to the River Indians, which speech is as follows:

Brethren. I have sent for you here to give you fresh assurances of the Great King your Father's protection, and that we might with the Commiss^{rs} whom you now see assembled here from the Govern^{rs} of Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland, strengthen and brighten the Covenant Chain.

We are glad to see you at this [your] old meeting place, and we do now, in His Maj$^{ty's}$ name, and in behalf of all the Colonies renew the Ancient Covenant Chain of friendship, that it may be stronger and brighter than ever, which we recommend to you to preserve clean and free from rust, by a peaceable & affectionate behaviour to all your brethren, and especially to those who live near you, and you may then with confidence rely on the favour of this and all his Maj$^{ty's}$ Govern^{rs}.

As a proof of the King your Father's tender regard for you, I shall deliver you a Present he has sent over for you, consisting of such necessaries as you may want; and the Commiss^{rs} from each of the Govern^{rs} have contributed towards a present for you also, all which presents shall be here ready for you in the afternoon.

Elisha Williams Esqr a Commiss^{r} for Connecticut took his seat.

On a Motion made and seconded that a Message be sent to His Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr of New York relating to the answer he proposes to make to the Six Nations, Mr Hutchinson and Mr Franklin were appointed to prepare the same.

Theodore Atkinson and Richard Wibbird Esq^{rs} Com^{rs} for New Hampshire took their seats, as did also Richard Peters Esqr one of the Commiss^{rs} for Pennsylvania.

Mr Hutchinson reported the following Message:

May it please your Honour.

The Commiss^{rs} from the several Govern^{rs} now met at Albany observe that in the speech your Honour proposes to make this day to the Indians of the Six Nations, and which you have caused to be communicated to the Board by their Secretary, no notice is taken of the complaints of the said Indians, relating to their lands. This complaint seems by the letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, which your Honour has laid before the Board to have been the principal occasion of this unusual and expensive meeting of Commiss^{rs} from

so many Colonies, and it appears by the last answer from the Indians, that their uneasiness still remains.

The Commiss^{rs} therefore, think it incumbent on them to pray your Honour that they may be acquainted with the particulars of the complaint, and that they may have an opportunity of consulting with your Honour, proper measures for removing the causes thereof.

Which was read and unanimously agreed to; and it was thereupon ordered that Mr Welles and Mr Pitkin, wait upon his Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr of New York with the same.

adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting on Saturday the 6th July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—All the Commiss^{rs} from Massachusets Bay
All the Commiss^{rs} from New Hampshire
The Commiss^{rs} from Connecticut
Stephen Hopkins Esqr one of the Com^{rs} from Rhode Island

Mr Welles reported to the Board that he and Mr Pitkin had delivered the Message they were appointed in the morning to deliver to His Hon^{r} the Lieut^{t} Govr of New York

The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York Martin Howard [Junr] Esqr Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Barnes Esq^{rs} took their seats.

Mr Murray delivered at the Board his Honour the Lieut^{t} Gov$^{r's}$ answer in writing to the Message delivered to his Honour this morning by Mr Welles and Mr Pitkin, which was read and is as follows:

Gentlemen. In answer to your Message to me of this day I acquaint you, that yesterday I had the Sachems of the Connajohary Castle before me in Council, to conclude the matter in controversy between some Germans and one Teady Magin, relating to an Indian purchase that had occasioned the greatest uneasiness amongst the Indians of that Castle, which after two meetings, was then formally and finally settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

I then took occasion to observe to them that at their meeting on the 2nd inst: I desired them to open their minds fully, and that I expected they would then have laid all their complaints before me; that as to what they had mentioned in their publick speech on the 4th inst: I was not acquainted with any other particular complaints until I came to this place, being abroad on the circuit at the time they made them at New York, and then I promised as soon as I returned thither I would look into them, and do [them] all the justice that lay in my power, with which they declared themselves well satisfied and thanked me.

Albany 6th July 1754. JAMES DELANCEY

The Board being obliged to attend at the interview of the Skaticok and River Indians adjourned to Monday morning at 9. o'clock.

At a Meeting in the Court house at Albany on Monday the 8th July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—William Johnson and Wm Smith Esq^{rs} two of the Council of New York & all the Commiss^{rs}.

The speech proposed by His Honour to be made to the Indians of the Six Nations having been again read to the Board, and the complaint of the Indians relative to their lands coming

under their consideration, the Board were acquainted that Mr William Livingston and Mr William Alexander,[1] two of the Heirs or Devisees of Phillip Livingston Esqre deceased, the proprietor or patentee of the lands on which Connajohary Castle stands, had declared their readiness to give up all right to said patents or such parts as shall be thought necessary; it was ordered that said Mr Livingston and Mr Alexander be informed that the Board desired to speak with them.

Mr Livingston and Mr Alexander being present informed the Board, that their Father was one among other Patentees of the lands mentioned, that they were interested ⅛ each of them in their Father's Right; the circumstances of this title they had made no enquiry into, but were ready to make any resignation, which, either justice or the publick service required.

The Board being informed that His Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr desired a Gentleman from each Govern^{t}, might be appointed to be present with him, in making enquiry of the Indians of the Connajohary Castle, how far they were satisfyed respecting their lands, Mr Peters and Mr Howard were appointed to wait on His Honour and acquaint him that the Board agreed to the proposal. Accordingly:

Mr Hutchinson was appointed for Massachusets Bay
Coll: Atkinson was appointed for New Hampshire
Coll: Wolcott ..... for Connecticut.
Mr Hopkins ..... for Rhode Island.
Mr Norris ..... for Pennsylvania
Coll: Tasker..... for Maryland.
Joseph Murray & John Chambers Esqrs of the Council of New York, took their seats.

His Honour's draught of the speech he proposes to make to the Six Nations which was delivered to the Board the 6th inst: was read, and after debate had thereon, relative to the sale of Rum amongst them, and the Connajohary's desire about a Church, some alterations and additions to it were agreed to be proposed to his Honour.

The Representation of the present state of the Colonies was again read, through, but no final resolution thereon agreed to.

The answers of the Scaakticook and River Indians to the speech made them the 6th inst: were read, and is as follows:

The Speech of the Scaakticook Indians:

Father, We are glad that the Govr sees his children now before him, we are small in number, but next time we hope we shall be more; Your Honour may see that we are but young and unexperienced, our ancient people being almost all dead, so that we have nobody to give us any advice, but we will do as our Fathers have done before us. Gave a Belt.

Father, This Belt came from our forefathers, and we will be true and faithful to the king as they were. Gave a Belt.

They also gave to the Govr a small bundle of skinns and desired that the sale of Rum might be stopped at Scaacticook, and that if they want it they will come and buy it at Albany.

[1] Afterwards known as Lord Stirling; married Sarah, eldest daughter of Philip Livingston, 2d proprietor of the Manor of Livingston, and Catharine Van Brugh. *Holgate's American Genealogy*, 163. — Ed.

The speech of the River Indians.

Fathers.—We are greatly rejoyced to see you all here. It is by the will of heaven that we are met here, and we thank you for this opportunity of seeing you all together, as it is a long time since we have had such a one.

Fathers, who sit present here, we will just give you a short relation of the long Friendship, which hath subsisted, between the White people of this Country and us—Our Forefathers had a Castle on this River, as one of them walked out he saw something on the River, but was at a loss to know what it was, he took it at first for a great fish, he ran into the Castle and gave notice to the other Indians, two of our Forefathers went to see what it was and found it a Vessel with Men in it, they immediately joyned hands with the people in the Vessel and became friends; the white people told them they should not come any further up the River at that time, and said to them they would return back from whence they came and come again in a year's time; according to their promise they returned back in a year's time and came as far up the River, as where the old Fort stood; Our Forefathers invited them ashore, and said to them, here we will give you a place to make you a Town, it shall be from this place up to such a stream, (meaning where the Patroons Mill now stands) and from the River back up to the Hill, our Forefathers told them they were now a small people, they would in time multiply and fill up the land they had given them. After they were a shore sometime, some other Indians, who had not seen them before, looked fiercely at them, & our Forefathers observing it and seeing the White people so few in number, lest they should be destroyed, took and sheltered them under their arms; but it turned out that these Indians did not desire to destroy them, but wished also to have the said White people for their friends; at this time which we have now spoken of, the white people were small, but we were very numerous and strong, we defended them in that low state, but now the case is altered, you are numerous and strong, we are few and weak, therefore we expect that you will act by us in these circumstances, as we did by you in those we have just now related; we view ye now as a very large Tree, which has taken deep Root in the ground, whose branches are spread very wide, we stand by the body of this Tree, and we look round to see if there be any who endeavour to hurt it, and if it should so happen that any are powerful enough to destroy it, we are ready to fall with it. Gave a Belt.

Fathers, You see how early we made friendship with you, we tied each other in a very strong chain, that chain has never yet been broken, we now clean and Rub that chain, to make it brighter and stronger, and we determine on our part, that it never shall be broken, and we hope you will take care that neither you, nor any one else shall break it, and we are greatly rejoyced that Peace and friendship have so long subsisted between us. Gave a Belt.

Fathers, Dont think strange at what we are about to say; we would say something respecting our lands; when the White people purchased from time to time of us, they said they only wanted to purchase the low lands, they told us the hilly land was good for nothing, and that it was full of wood and stones, but now we see people living all about the Hills and woods, although they have not the purchased lands—when we enquire of the people who live on the[se] lands, what right they have to them, they reply to us that we are not to be regarded, and that these lands belong to the King; but we were the first posessors of them, and when the King has paid us for them, then they may say they are his; hunting now is grown very

scarce, and we are not like to get our livings that way; therefore we hope our Fathers will take care that we are paid for our lands, that we may live. Gave a Belt.

make a present of a bundle of Skins.

[The Board then Adjourned to 3 O'clock this afternoon.]

At a Meeting ettc. on Monday the 8th July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—All the Commissrs except Coll: Atkinson Mr Norris and the Commissrs for Maryland.

The Board proceeded in their consideration upon the plan for a Union, but did not go thro' with it.

The speech proposed to be made to the Six Nations was returned, to the Board from His Honour with the alterations and additions proposed by the Board in the morning:

Ordered. That the said speech lay upon the Table till some further matters relating to it be agreed on by the Board.

The Committee appointed in the morning to be present with the Lieutt Govr of New York at a conference with the Connajohary Indians, returned from the same and reported as follows:

That His Honour enquired of the Indians whether they had not expressed themselves satisfied with the measures he had taken concerning their lands, and the promise that he would enquire further into the affair when he came to New York, to which they replyed: that they were sensible, His Honour was at Albany when they made this[1] complaint at New York last year—That he had told them he had now left the papers there, but would enquire into it when he came there—That they were willing to try one year more, and if matters were not made up by the Govr whom they looked upon as their elder Brother, but neglected as they used to be, they would send to all their other brothers (pointing to the Commissrs) for their assistance, and that they agreed to this the rather, as there were French Indians in Town, and they did not think it convenient to have any difference before them. Upon which His Honour again assured them, he would enquire into their affairs, in order to their being satisfyed, especially as he had the King's orders for it.

The Board receiving a Message from His Honour that the Sachims of the Six Nations were attending to be spoke to:

The Board adjourned to 9 o'clock to morrow mornr and waited upon the Governour.

At a Meeting in the Court house at Albany [on Tuesday the] 9th July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—Joseph Murray & William Smith Esqrs of the Council of New York.
All the Commissrs except Coll: Partridge and Mr Hopkins.

The public conference between His Honour the Lieutt Govr of New York and the Commissrs from the several Governts, with the Sachems of the Six Nations yesterday evening was read, and ordered to be entered as follows:

[1] their. *Johnson Manuscripts*, I.—Ed.

Brethren. You told me your hearts were deeply concerned at the sad effects which may arise from selling Rum in your respective Countries, I will give orders that the Laws already made for preventing the Sale of this liquor among you shall be strictly put in execution, and whatever further provision in the law is necessary, I will endeavour it shall be made, that you may see I take care of your health and your peace, which are hurt and disturbed by the use of this Liquor among you, of the Five upper Nations: and as to what you of the Mohawks have said, I shall consider how far it may be necessary to restrain the people living round you from selling Rum, and if I can think of a proper remedy for this evil, I will endeavour to apply it.

Brethren of the Upper Castle of the Mohawks.

I am well pleased with your earnest request to have a Church built amongst you, and shall do every thing in my power to promote so good a work, and it is very agreable to me, and the Commiss^{rs} from all the Govern^{ts} present to find a disposition in you to receive the Christian Religion.

Brethren. As I have given you satisfaction with respect to one of your complaints, about your lands, which lay heavy on your minds, and have assured you that I shall endeavour to do you justice as to the rest when I come to New York, I shall not say any thing further to you on that affair now.

The Govr being informed by the Interpreter, that they chose to have the powder divided on the Hill, told them, it was in his opinion, better for them to have it sent to Schenectady.

Hendrick answered for them; just as His Honour pleased, who told them he would order the powder to Schenectady and the Rum above the settlements, with which they expressed themselves satysfied.

His Honour then said:

I have now done speaking to you, but before I cover up the fire, I must recommend it to you to behave quietly and peaceably to all your brethren and their Cattle in your return home.

Hendrick then replyed

Your Honour told us, you now covered up the fire and we are highly pleased, that all things have been so amicably settled, and hope that all that has passed between us may be strictly observed on both sides

Brethren of the several Govern^{ts}

We hope that you will not fail in the Covenant Chain, wherewith we have mutually bound ourselves, and now [so] solemnly renewed and strengthened.

If we do not hold fast by this Chain of friendship, our Enemies will laugh us to scorn.

Brethren. We wish you would all contribute to provide some provisions for us, in our way home, which will effectually prevent our people from killing the Inhabitants' Cattle, and we desire you will provide some Waggons for us to go to Schenectady; we think this expence will fall too heavy upon one province, as we have the presents from all to carry up.

We beg we may all take care of the Fire[1] of friendship and preserve it by our mutual attention from any injuries; we will take care of it on our sides, and we hope our Brethren will do so on theirs. We wish this fire of Friendship[1] may grow up to a great height, and then we shall be a powerful people.

[1] *Sic. Tree* of friendship. *Johnson Manuscripts*, I. — Ed.

Brethren. We the united Nations shall rejoyce in the increase of our strength, so that all other Nations may stand in awe of us.

Brethren. I will just tell you what a people we were formerly; if any of our Enemies rose against us, we had no occasion to lift up our whole hand against them, for our little finger was sufficient, and as we have now made so strong a confederacy, if we are truly earnest therein, we may retrieve the Ancient glory of the Five Nations.

Brethren. We have now done; but one word we must add. The Interpretor, if the French continue their Hostilities, will want assistance, three or four to be joyned with him; but this matter we submit to the Govr. We have now [fully] finished all that we have to say.

The Govr replyed:

Brethren. It gives me and all the Commissioners here present great satisfaction, that this interview has been so amicably concluded on all sides. I have ordered 30 waggons, to be provided for your service which I expect here to morrow morning, and I have ordered provisions to serve you on your journey.

I hope that by this present Union, we shall grow up to a great height and be as powerful and famous as you were of old.

As to the Interpreter, when the circumstances of this Country require it, he shall have the necessary assistance, and I assure you in the name of this and all the Govern^{ts} here present, that we shall endeavour to extend and preserve the Covenant Chain by every possible Method in our power.

They asked his Honour when himself and the Commiss^{rs} proposed to return home.

His Honour answered, that they had some matters yet to settle about the Union, and they should then set out for their respective habitations.

The Govr then in his own name and that of the Commiss^{rs} wished them a good journey and they returned the compliment, and then the conference broke up.

The answers of the answers,[1] of the Lieut^{t} Govr and the Commiss^{rs} to the Schaacticook and River Indians, was next read and ordered to be entered as follows:

The answer to the Schaacticook Indians.

Children. We condole with you on the loss of your old and experienced people.

A. string.

Children. I and the Commiss^{rs} from the other Govern^{ts} here present are glad to see that although you are young and unexperienced, yet you are willing to take advice, and are determined to remain faithful to the King and friendly to all his subjects. A Belt.

Answer to the River Indians.

Children. We are glad to find that you treasure up in your Memories the mutual instances of friendship between our ancestors and yours; the remembrance of that friendship will descend to our posterity, and we desire you to hand it down to yours; and altho' there is a great alteration in circumstances since our predecessors first came among you, yet we have not less affection for you than they had A Belt.

[1] *Sic.* The Answers of the Lieut. Gov., &c. *Johnson Manuscripts*, I. — Ed.

Children.

Your brightening and strengthening the covenant Chain, is well pleasing to me and the Commiss^{rs}; we acknowledge you have never broke it; we have likewise preserved it entire, and are determined to continue to do so. A Belt.

Children.—You complain that some of the people of this province, are in possesion of your lands which you never sold. This is a complaint which affects persons who live at a distance. I have ordered notice to be given them of it, and if upon enquiry into the affair, it shall appear that you have been injured, I will endeavour to get you redressed; but I shall observe to you, that the constant method of granting lands in this Province, is and has been by licence from the Govr, to purchase from the Indians, and upon the purchase being returned, before him in Council, he with their advice orders a Patent, and that most of these lands concerning which you complain, were patented when you were Children, some before any of you were born.

Ordered that the following minute be made.

That the last paragraph of the foregoing answer to the River Indians, about the manner of Patenting Lands in this Province beginning with the words "I shall observe"—was an addition made by His Honour to the draught sent him yesterday by this Board.

Coll: Johnson, Mr Chambers, Coll: Partridge and Mr Hopkins took their seats.

The plan of the Union was debated and agreed upon, and Mr Franklin was desired to make a draught of it as now concluded upon.

adjourned to 5 o'clock this evening.

At a meeting ettc on Tuesday the 9th July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—His Honour the Lieut^{t} Govr and the four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, and all the Commiss^{rs} except Mr Franklin absent by his appointment in the morning.

The draught of the Representation ettc was read and considered paragraph by paragraph, some amendments made, and the whole was agreed to and ordered to be minuted as follows:

That His Maj^{tys} title to the Northern continent of America, appears to be founded on the discovery thereof first made and the posession thereof first taken in 1497. under a Commission from Henry the 7th of England to Sebastion Cabot.

That the French have possessed themselves of several parts of this continent which by Treaties have been ceded and confirmed to them.

That the right of the English to the whole Sea coast from Georgia on the South to the River St Lawrence on the North except the Island of Cape Breton and the Islands in the Bay of St Lawrence, remains plain and indisputable.

That all the lands and Countries Westward from the Atlantic Ocean, to the South sea between 48 and 34 degrees North latitude were expressly included in the grant of King James the 1st to divers of his subjects so long since as the year 1606 and afterwards confirmed in 1620. and under this grant, the Colony of Virginia claims extent as far West as the south sea, and the ancient Colonies of the Massachusets Bay and Connecticut were by their respective Charters, made to extend to the South sea; so that not only the Right to the sea coast, but to

all the Inland Countries, from sea to sea has at all times been asserted by the Crown of England.

That the province of Nova Scotia or Accadie hath known and determinate bounds by the original Grant from King James the 1st and that there is abundant evidence of the sense which the French had of these bounds while they were in possession of it, and [that] these bounds being then[1] known, the said province by the Treaty of Utrecht according to its ancient limits, was added[2] to Great Brittain, and remained in possession thereof until the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, by which it was confirmed; but by said Treaty it is stipulated, that the bounds of the said Province shall be determined by Commissaries ettc.

That by the Treaty of Utrecht the Country of the Five Cantons of the Iroquois, is expressly acknowledged to be under the Dominion of the Crown of Great Brittain.

That the Lake Champlain formerly called Lake Iroquois and the Country Southward of it, as far as the Dutch or English settlements the lakes Ontario, Erie and all the Countries adjacent, have by all ancient authors, French and English been allowed to belong to the Five Cantons or Nations and the whole of these Countries long before the said Treaty of Utrecht, were by said Nations, put under the protection of the Crown of great Brittain.

That by the Treaty of Utrecht there is reserved to the French a liberty of frequenting the Countries of the Five Nations and other Indians in friendship with great Brittain for the sake of Commerce, as there is also to the English a liberty of frequenting the Countries of those in friendship with France for the same purpose.

That after the Treaty of Utrecht the French built several Fortresses, in the Country of the Five Nations, and a very strong one at a place called Crown Point, to the South of lake Champlain.

That the French Court hath evidently since the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, made this Northern Continent more than ever the object of its attention.

That the French have most unjustly taken Possession of part of the Province of Nova Scotia and in the River St John's and other parts of said province, they have built strong Fortresses, and from this River they will have during the Winter and spring season, a much easier communication between France and Canada, than they have heretofore had, and will be furnished with a harbour more commodiously situated, for the anoying the British Colonies by privatiers and Men of War than Louisburgh itself.

That they have taken possession of, & begun a settlement at the head of the River Kinnebeck, within the bounds of the Province of Main, the most convenient situation, for affording support and safe retreat to the Eastern Indians in any of their attempts upon the Govern[t] of New England.

That it appears by information of the Natives the French have been making preparations for another settlement at a place called Cohass on Connecticut River, near the head thereof, where it is but about ten miles distant from a branch of Merrimack River, and from whence there is a very near and easy communication with the Abnekais Indians who are settled on the River St François, about forty miles from the River St Lawrence, and it is certain that the Inhabitants of New Hampshire in which province this Cohass is supposed to lye, have been interrupted and impeded by the French Indians, from making any settlements there.

That since the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the French have increased the number of their Forts in the Country of the great Lakes and on the Rivers which run into the Missisippi and

[1] thus known. *Johnson Manuscripts*, I. [2] ceded. *Ibid.* — Ed.

are securing a communication between the two Colonies of Louisania and Canada, and at the same time, putting themselves into a capacity of annoying the Southern British Colonys, and preventing any further settlement of His Majᵗⁱᵉˢ dominions

That they have been gradually increasing their Troop[s] in America, transporting them in their Ship[s] of War, which return to France with a bare compliment of Men, leaving the rest in their Colonies, and by this means they are less observed by the powers of Europe than they would be if Transports as usual heretofore were provided for this purpose.

That they have taken prisoners, divers of His Majᵗʸˢ subjects trading in the Country of the Iroquois, and other Inland parts, and plundered such prisoners of several thousand pounds sterling, and they are continually exciting the Indians, to destroy or make prisoners, the Inhabitants of the Frontiers of the British Colonies, which prisoners are carried to Canada and a price equal to what slaves are [usually] sold for in the Plantations is demanded for their redemption and release.

That they are continually drawing off the Indians from the British interest, and have lately perswaded one half of the Onondaga Tribe with many from the other Nations along with them, to remove to a place called Osweegchie, on the river Cadaraghqui, where they have built them a Church and Fort and many of the Senecas, the most numerous Nation, appear to be wavering and rather inclined to the French, and it is a melancholy consideration, that not more than 150 Men of all the several Nations, have attended this Treaty, although they had notice, that all the Governᵗˢ would be here by their Commissioners, and that a large present would be given.

That it is the evident design of the French to surround the British Colonies, to fortifie themselves on the back thereof, to take and keep possession of the heads of all the important Rivers, to draw over the Indians to their Interest, and with the help of such Indians added to such Forces as are already arrived and may hereafter be sent from Europe, to be in a capacity of making a general attack on the several Governᵗˢ, and if at the same time a strong Naval Force be sent from France, there is the utmost danger that the whole continent will be subjected to that Crown and that the danger of such a Naval Force is not merely imaginary, may be argued from past experience, for if it had not been for the most extraordinary interposition of Heaven, every sea-port Town on the Continent in the year 1746. might have been Ravaged and destroyed by the Squadron under the Command of the Duke d'Anville, notwithstanding the then declining State of the French, and the very flourishing state of the British Navy, and the further advantage accruing to the English from the possession of Cape Breton. That the French find by experience they are able to make greater and more sure advantages upon their neighbours in peace than in war; what they unjustly possessed themselves of after the peace of Utrecht, they now pretend to have a right to hold by virtue of the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, until the true boundary between the English and the French be settled by Commissarys, but their conquest made during the war, they have been obliged to restore.

That the French affairs relative to this continent are under one direction, and constantly regarded by the Crown and Ministry, who are not inse[n]sible how great a stride they would make, towards an Universal Monarchy if the British Colonies were added to their Dominions, and consequently, the whole Trade of North America engrossed by them.

That the said Colonies being in a divided disunited state, there has never been any joint exertion of their Force or Counsells to repel or defeat the measures of the French, and particular Colonies are unable and unwilling to maintain the cause of the whole.

That there has been a very great neglect of the affairs of the Iroquois, or, as they a[re] commonly called the Indians of the Six Nations and their friendship and alliance has been improved to private purposes, for the sake of the Trade with them, and the purchase or acquisition of their lands more than to the public service.

That they are supplyed with Rum by the traders in vast and almost incredible quantities, the laws of the Colonies now in force being insufficient to restrain the supply, and the Indians of every Nation are frequently drunk and abused in their Trade, and their affections thereby alienated from the English; they often wound and murder one another in their Liquor, and to avoid revenge flee to the French, and perhaps more have been lost by these means than by the French artifices.

That purchases of lands from the Indians by private persons for small trifling considerations, have been the cause of great uneasiness and discontents, and if the Indians are not in fact imposed on and injured, yet they are apt to think that they have been and indeed they appear not fit to be intrusted at large with the sale of their own lands, and the Laws of some of the Colonies which make such sales void, unless the allowance of the Govern[t] be first obtained, seem to be well founded.

That the granting or patenting vast Tracts of Land to private persons, or companys without conditions of speedy settlement, has tended to prevent the strengthning the Frontiers of the particular Colony where such Tracts lye, and been prejudicial to the rest.

That it seems absolutely necessary that speedy and effectual measures be taken to secure the Colonies from the slavery they are threatened with.

That any further advances of the French should be prevented and the encroachments already made removed.—That the Indians in alliance or Friendship with the English be constantly regarded, under some wise directions or superintendancy. That endeavours be used for the recovery of those Indians who are lately gone over to the French and for securing those that remain.—That some discreet person or persons be appointed to reside constantly with each Nation of Indians, such persons to have no concern in Trade, and duly to communicate all advices to the superintendents. That the Trade with the said Indians be well regarded, and made subservient to the public interest, more than to private gain. That there be Forts built for the security of each Nation and the better carrying on the Trade with them. That warlike vessells be provided sufficient to maintain His Maj[ty's] right to a free Navigation on the several Lakes. That all future purchase of lands from the Indians be void unless made by the Govern[t] where such lands lye, and from the Indians in a body in their public councils. That the patentees or possessors of large unsettled Territories be injoyned to cause them to be settled in a reasonable time on pain of forfeiture. That the complaints of the Indians, relative to any grants or possessions of their lands fraudulently obtained be enquired into and all injuries redressed. That the bounds of these Colonies which extend to the South sea, be contracted and limited by the Alleghenny or Apalachian mountains, and that measures be taken for settling from time to time Colonies of His Maj[ty's] protestant subjects, westward of said Mountains in convenient Cantons to be assigned for that purpose; and finally: That there be a Union of His Maj[ty's] several Govern[t]s on the Continent, that so their Councils, Treasure and strength may be employed in due proportion ag[st] their common Enemy. All which is submitted:

Adjourned till 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 10th July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—Joseph Murray and Wm Smith Esqrs of the Council of New York.
All the Commissrs except Henry Sherburn Esqr one of the Commissrs for New Hampshire.

Mr Franklin reported the draught in a new form of a plan of a Union, agreable to the determination of yesterday which was read paragraph by paragraph, [and debated] and the further consideration of it deferred to the afternoon.
adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting &c. on Wednesday the 10th July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT—His Honour the Lieutt Govr and the four Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissrs for the respective Governments.

The consideration of a plan of a Union was resumed which plan is as follows:

PLAN of a proposed UNION of the several Colonies of Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut Rhode Island, New York, New Jerseys, Pennsylvania Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, for their mutual defence and security, and for extending the British Settlements in North America.

That humble application be made for an Act of the Parliament of Great Brittain, by virtue of which, one General Governt may be formed in America, including all the said Colonies, within, and under which Governt each Colony may retain each present constitution, except in the particulars wherein a charge may be directed by the said Act, as hereafter follows.

That the said General Governt be administered by a president General, to be appointed & supported by the Crown, and a grand Council to be chosen by the representatives of the people of the several Colonies, meet in their respective assemblies.

That within Months after the passing of such Act, The house of representatives in the several Assemblies, that Happen to be sitting within that time or that shall be specially for that purpose convened, may and shall chose, Members for the Grand Council in the following proportions, that is to say:

Massachusets Bay	7.
New Hampshire	2.
Connecticut	5.
Rhode Island	2.
New York	4.
New Jerseys	3.
Pennsylvania	6.
Maryland	4.
Virginia	7.
North Carolina	4.
South Carolina	4.
	48.

Who shall meet for the present time at the City of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, being called by the President General as soon as conveniently may be after his appointment.

That there shall be a New Election of Members for the Grand Council every three years, and on the death or resignation of any Member, his place shall be supplyed by a new choice at the next sitting of the Assembly of the Colony he represented.

That after the first three years, when the proportion of money arising out of each Colony to the General Treasury can be known, the number of Members to be chosen, for each Colony shall from time to time in all ensuing Elections be regulated by that proportion (yet so as that the Number to be chosen by any one province be not more than seven nor less than two).

That the Grand Council shall meet once in every year, and oftener if occasion require, at such time and place as they shall adjourn to at the last preceeding meeting, or as they shall be called to meet at by the President General, on any emergency, he having first obtained in writing the consent of seven of the Members to such call, and sent due and timely notice to the whole.

That the Grand Council have power to chuse their speaker, and shall neither be dissolved prorogued, nor continue sitting longer than six weeks at one time without their own consent, or the special command of the Crown.

That the Members of the Grand Council shall be allowed for their services ten shillings sterling per diem, during their Sessions or Journey to and from the place of Meeting; twenty miles to be reckoned a days Journey.

That the Assent of the President General be requisite to all Acts of the Grand Council, and that it be his Office and duty to cause them to be carried into execution.

That the President General with the advice of the Grand Council, hold or direct all Indian Treaties in which the general interest or welfare of the Colonys may be concerned; and make peace or declare War with the Indian Nations. That they make such Laws as they judge necessary for the regulating all Indian Trade. That they make all purchases from Indians for the Crown, of lands [now] not within the bounds of particular Colonies, or that shall not be within their bounds when some of them are reduced to more convenient dimensions. That they make new settlements on such purchases by granting Lands, [in the King's name] reserving a Quit rent to the Crown, for the use of the General Treasury.

That they make Laws for regulating & governing such new settlements, till the Crown shall think fit to form them into particular Govern^{ts}.

That they raise and pay Soldiers, and build Forts for the defence of any of the Colonies, and equip vessels of Force, to guard the Coasts and protect the Trade on the Ocean, Lakes, or great Rivers; but they shall not impress men in any Colonies without the consent of its Legislature. That for these purposes they have power to make Laws and lay and Levy such general duties, imposts or taxes, as to them shall appear most equal and just, considering the ability and other circumstances of the Inhabitants in the several Colonies, and such as may be collected with the least inconvenience to the people, rather discouraging luxury, than loading Industry with unnecessary burthens.—That they might appoint a General Treasurer and a particular Treasurer in each Govern^{t} when necessary, and from time to time may order the sums in the Treasuries of each Govern^{t}, into the General Treasury, or draw on them for special payments as they find most convenient; yet no money to issue but by joint orders of the President General and Grand Council, except where sums have been appropriated to particular purposes, and the President General is previously impowered by an Act to draw for such sums.

That the General accounts shall be yearly settled and reported to the several Assemblies.

That a Quorum of the Grand Council impowered to act with the President General, do consists of twenty five Members, among whom there shall be one or more from a majority of the Colonies. That the Laws made by them for the purposes aforesaid, shall not be repugnant, but as near as may be agreable to the Laws of England, and shall be transmitted to the King in Council for approbation, as soon as may be after their passing, and if not disapproved within three years after presentation to remain in Force.

That in case of the death of the President General, the Speaker of the Grand Council for the time being shall succeed, and be vested with the same powers and authority, to continue until the King's pleasure be known.

That all Military Commission Officers, whether for land or sea service, to act under this General constitution, shall be nominated by the President General, but the aprobation of the Grand Council is to be obtained before they receive their Commissions; and all Civil Officers are to be nominated by the grand Council, and to receive the President General's approbation before they officiate; but in case of vacancy by death or removal of any Officer Civil or Military under this constitution, The Govr of the Province in which such vacancy happens, may appoint till the pleasure of the President General and grand Council can be known.— That the particular Military as well as Civil establishments in each Colony remain in their present State this General constitution notwithstanding. And that on sudden emergencies any Colony may defend itself, and lay the accounts of expence thence arisen, before the President General and Grand Council, who may allow and order payment of the same as far as they judge such accounts just and reasonable.

After debate on the foregoing plan:

Resolved. That the Commiss^{rs} from the several Govern^{ts} be desired to lay the same before their respective constituents for their consideration, and that the Secretary to this Board transmit a copy thereof with their vote thereon to the Governor of each of the Colonies which have not sent their Commiss^{rs} to this Congress.

His Honour proposed to the Board that agreable to their resolution of the 24. June, they would now consider the expediency of building Forts in the Indian Country. It was determined, that considering the present wavering disposition of the Senecas it was expedient that a Fort should be built in their Country at a place called Irondequat or Tierondequat.

Ordered. That a Committee be appointed to consider what further Forts may be necessary in the Country of the Six Nations, and that each Colony name a Member for this Committee.

Ordered. That Mr Chambers and Mr Peters be a Committee to revise the Minutes settled and agreed to by this Board.

adjourned till tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

At a Meeting at the Court house at Albany on Thursday the 11th July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT—His Honour the Lieut[t] Gov[r] and the four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.—

All the Commiss[rs] from the several Govern[ts] except William Pitkin Esq[r] one of the Commiss[rs] for Connecticut.

M[r] Welles from the Committee appointed to consider what other Forts may be necessary. reported: That they had carefully considered the present state of the Frontiers of these Colonies, and are of opinion that several other Forts at particular passes, are equally necessary, with that proposed at Tierondequat, that as there is no probability of their being effected in the present disunited state of the Colonies, and the General union may make some of them unnecessary.—We apprehend some inconveniencies may arise if the Board should go farther into the consideration of that matter at this time.

His Honour put the Question, whether the Board would accept of this Report.

And it passed in the affirmative.

Certain proposals from William Johnson Esq[r] relative to the Six Nations, and for the defeating the designs of the French; also certain considerations offered by Thomas Pownall Esq[r] "towards a general plan of the Measures of the English Provinces" were read at the Board.

It was thereupon voted that M[r] Franklin be desired to give the thanks of this Board to the said M[r] Johnson and M[r] Pownall, and desire them to suffer copies of the papers to be taken by the Commiss[rs] of each Colony for the consideration of their respective Govern[ts].

Ordered. That all His Maj[ties] Govern[ts] on this Continent may have liberty from time to time to take copies of the proceedings of this Congress or any parts thereof, paying for the same, and that no other copies be delivered by the Secretary.

Ordered. That upon the Secretary's leaving this Province the Records of these proceedings of the Commiss[rs] of the several Govern[ts] be lodged in the Secretary's Office of the province of New York.

M[r] Chambers and M[r] Peters Reported that they had examined these Minutes of the proceedings of this Congress and find them right.

An then His Honour the Lieut[t] Gov[r] of New York and the Commiss[rs] of the several Govern[ts] rose without any further adjournment.

New York 25th July 1754.

A True copy from the proceedings of the Congress held in the City of Albany in the Province of New York in the months of June and July ofthis present year.

Examined by me

PETER WRAXALL Secr[y]

NOTE. — The letters and words within brackets, in the preceding Document, are inserted from the copy in the *Johnson Manuscripts*, L, in the State Library. — ED.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the Sixth of August, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, William Logan, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Assembly being to meet this Day in Vertue of the Governor's Writs, his Honour laid before the Council the Proceedings of the Congress held at Albany by the Honourable James De Lancy, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of New York and the Commissioners of the several Provinces, met in the said City of Albany the nineteenth Day of June, 1754, together with a Letter given to the Commissioners at Albany by the Commissioners of Indian Affairs there, a Letter from Andrew Montour, likewise Three Petitions, One from the Inhabitants of Cumberland County, another from the Inhabitants of Donegal, and the Other from the Inhabitants of Pextang, Derry, and Hanover, which were read and ordered to be entered. The Comrs of Pensilvania having held a private Treaty with the Six Nations whilst at Albany for the Purchase of Lands, their Report to the Governor was likewise read and order'd to be enter'd.

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, on Wednesday the Nineteenth Day of June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable Lieutenant Governor of New York.

"Joseph Murray,
"William Johnson,
"John Chambers,
"William Smith, } Esquires, of his Majestie's Council of this Province.

"Theodore Atkinson,
"Richard Wyberd,
"Meshec Weare,
"Henry Sherburne, Jr. } Esquires, Commrs for his Majestie's Province of New Hampshire.

"Samuel Wells,
"John Chandler,
"Oliver Patridge,
"John Worthington, } Esquires, Commissioners for Massachusetts Bay.

"William Pitkir,
"Roger Woolcot,
"Elisha Williams, } Esquires, Commissioners for the Colony of Connecticut.

"Stephen Hopkins,
"Martin Howard, Jr., } Esquires, Commissioners for the Colony of Rhode Island.

"John Penn,
"Richard Peters,
"Isaac Norris,
"Benj^a Franklin, } Esquires, Commissioners for the Governm^t of Pensilvania.

"Benjamin Tasker,
"Abraham Barnes, } Esq^rs, Com^rs for the Gov^t of Maryland.

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York having yesterday directed Mr. Banyar, Deputy Secretary of the said Province, to wait upon the Commissioners of the several Provinces above named, to acquaint them that his Honour desired they would meet him in Council in the City Hall of Albany this Morning, in Order to produce their Powers and proceed upon Business.

"The said Commissioners being now accordingly met, took their Seats and produced their respective Commissions, which were read.

"His Honour then produced a Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, bearing Date the Eighteenth Day of September last, out of which a Paragraph was read.

"Afterwards were read Two Minutes of the Proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs in this City, dated the Fifteenth and Eighteenth Instant; Also a Remonstrance from the Oswego Traders to his Honour.

"It was recommended as the first Step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the Commissioners should consider of the several Matters they may judge proper to be proposed to the Indians at the intended Interview with them, and to prepare the Speech to be made on that Occasion, for which Purpose his Honour acquainted the Commissioners he would direct the Secretary or Agent for Indian Affairs to attend them with the Records of that Office, and the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to meet together as often as there should be Occasion, in order that they might give them all the Information relative to Indian Affairs."

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"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Wednesday Afternoon the Nineteenth Day of June, 1754.

"PRESENT:

"The Council of New York and all the Commissioners as particularly named in the Minutes of this Morning.

"The Board proceeded to take into Consideration, the Matters re-

commended by his Honor in the Morning. The whole Letter from the Lords of Trade was read, and is as follows, vizt:

"'WHITEHALL, Septr 18th, 1753.

"'Sir:

"'A few Days after You sail'd from Portsmouth We received a Letter from Mr. Clinton, enclosing the Minutes of the Proceedings between him and a Deputation of the Mohawk Indians at Fort George in the City of New York in June last, with the Journals of the Assembly then sitting.

"'You will without doubt upon your Arrival be fully informed of the particular Circumstances of this affair, the Resentment expressed by the Indians and the abrupt and hasty manner in which they went away; and tho' from the Confidence We have of your vigilant attention to whatever may concern your Government, we are persuaded You will not have failed to have taken every necessary and prudent Measure to obviate the fatal Consequences which might attend this affair; yet we think it no less our Duty to embrace the first Opportunity of writing our Sentiments to You upon it, and of pointing out to You what appears to Us necessary to be done.

"'When we consider of how great Consequence the Friendship and Alliance of the Six Nations is to all his Majestie's Colonies and Plantations in America in general as well as to New York in particular; when We consider that this Friendship and Alliance is only to be gain'd and preserved by making Presents to them at proper times and upon proper Occasions, and by an inviolable Observance of all our Engagements with them; and when we recollect the attempts which have lately been made to withdraw them from the British Interest, we cannot but be greatly concerned and surprised that the Province of New York should have been so inattentive to the general Interest of his Majestie's Subjects in America, as well as to their own particular Security, as to have given Occasion to the Complaints made by the Indians; but we are still more surprised at the Manner in which these Complaints were received, the dissatisfactory Answers given to the Indians, and at their being suffered to depart (tho' the Assembly was then sitting) without any Measures taken to bring them to Temper, or to redress their Complaints.

"'This being the Light in which We see this Affair, We think it for his Majestie's Service that You should take the very first Opportunity of representing to the Council and Assembly in the strongest manner of how great Importance it is to the Province of New York to preserve the Friendship and Affections of the Indians, and the fatal Consequences which must inevitably follow from a Neglect of them, that You should press them to join with and support You in every Measure You shall find it necessary to pursue in order to fix them in the British Interest, more especially by making proper Provision for Presents for them, which joined to

the Presents allowed by his Majesty and which You will receive by this Conveyance, may serve to facilitate this great End, and to wipe away all Remembrance of that Neglect the Indians now complain of. As a speedy Interview with the Indians is from their Disposition become the more necessary, You will no doubt think it proper to advise with the Council as to the Time and Place of Meeting the Indians, in which Points We trust You will have a due Regard to their Convenience. And as it appears from their Complaints that Albany which has been the usual Place of Meeting is obnoxious to them, You will, if You find sufficient Foundation for this Complaint, appoint some other Place You shall think more for their Ease and Satisfaction. And We observe from a Report of the Council and Assembly to Mr. Clinton that Onondago is proposed as the most proper Place. We likewise hope that in the Choice of the Persons who are to attend and assist You at this Interview, You will have a regard to such as are best acquainted with the Indians and their Affairs and not obnoxious to them. And as a great deal depends upon the Interpreters, We desire You will be particularly careful to appoint such as are well acquainted with the Indian Language, and Men of Ability and Integrity.

"'We hope that the Threats of the Mohawk Indians when they left New York have not been carried into Execution, but think it of absolute Necessity, in order to obviate any ill Consequences which might attend these Threats, that some Person of Character and Discretion should be imediately sent among the Indians to acquaint them of your Arrival, of the Presents his Majesty has ordered to be delivered to them, and of your Intention of holding an Interview with them for burying the Hatchet and renewing the Covenant Chain; that this Person should be carefully instructed to endeavour to remove any Prejudices which the Six Nations may have imbibed from the Representations of the Mohawks, to obviate the ill Effects which would attend a general Discontent amongst them at so critical a Conjuncture, and to put them upon their Guard against any attempts which may be made to withdraw them from his Majestie's Interest; and that nothing may be wanting to convince the Indians of the Sincerity of our Intentions You will do well to examine into the Complaints they have made of being defrauded of their Lands, to take all proper and legal Methods to redress their Complaints, and to gratify them by reasonable Purchases or in such other Matter as You shall find most proper and agreeable to them, for such Lands as have been unwarrantably taken from them or for such other as they may have a Desire to dispose of; and We recommend it to You to be particularly careful for the future that You do not make Grants to any Persons whatsoever of Lands purchased by them of the Indians upon their own Accounts, such Practices have been found in a neighbouring Government to be attended with great Mischief and Inconvenience. But when the Indians are disposed to sell any of their Lands, the

Purchase ought to be made in his Majestie's Name and at the Publick Charge.

"'As We find it has been usual upon former Occasions when an Interview has been held with the Indians for the other neighbouring Governments in Alliance with them to send Commissioners to be joined with those of New York, and as the present wavering Disposition of the Indians equally affects the other Provinces, We have wrote to the Governors of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, and New Jersey, desiring them to represent to their respective Assemblies the Utility and Necessity of this Measure, and to urge them to make proper Provision for it; and therefore it will be necessary that when You have settled the Time and Place of Meeting You should give them early Notice of it; and this leads Us to recommend one thing more to your Attention, and that is to take Care that all the Provinces be (if practicable) comprised in one general Treaty to be made in his Majestie's Name, it appearing to Us that the Practice of each Province making a separate Treaty for itself in its own Name is very improper, and may be attended with great Inconvenience to his Majestie's Service. So we bid You heartily farewell, and are your very loving Friends and humble Servants.

"'DUNK. HALIFAX,
"'J. GREENVILLE,
"'DAPPLIN.

"'To Sir DANVERS OSBORN, Governor of New York.

"'Albany, June, 1754.

"'A true Copy of the Original. Ex^d^ by

"'GEO. BANYAR, D. S^y^'

"And also were read the following Papers from the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany, vizt:

"'ALBANY, 15th June, 1754.

"'At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Mr. Lutridge's.

"'PRESENT:

"'Col. Mynd^t^ Schuyler.

"'Robert Saunders, Esquire, Mayor of the City.

"'Syl^r^ Van Shaak, Esquire, Recorder.

"'Capt Hubert Marshal, Commander of the Fort.

"'Cornelius Cuyler,
"'John Beekman,
"'John Ranslear,
"'Jacob Coent Ten Eyck,
"'Peter Winnee,
} Esquires.

"'Peter Wraxall, Sec'y.

"'His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable James

Delancey, Esquire, having directed Col. Mind^{t} Schuyler to convene the Commissioners of Indian affairs that they might consult together if they had any Matters in particular to recommend to his Honour upon the approaching Interview with the Six Nations.

"'In consequence hereof the Commissioners are of Opinion that the Six Nations who now live dispersed and confused should in the most earnest Manner be exhorted to unite and dwell together in their respective Castles, and that the Mohock Nation should live in one Castle only.

"'That his Honour apply to the Onondago Indians in particular to direct and exhort them to live together in one Castle according to their antient and prudent Custom, and to cause all their Friends and Relations wherever dispersed to join them, particularly those who have separated themselves and live at present at Swagassie, on the South Side of the River Saint Lawrence to the Eastward of Cadaraqui, where the French have lately fortified, have a Garrison, and where a French Missionary constantly resides in order to draw them off from our Alliance. At this Swagassie the French lately made a Settlement of Indians belonging to the Six Nations, of which the greatest Part are from Onondago and Cayuga.

"'That whereas the French have long been endeavouring to prevail on the Senecas to come and settle at Irondequat in order to have them nearer to their Settlements, the more easy to effect their Design of debauching them from the British Interest, The commissioners are of Opinion that his Honour should insist on the Senecas, who at present live very remote from one another, to make a general Castle near the mouth of the Senecas' River, where they have already began to build a new Castle. This Point has been several Times recommended to them by former Governors, and which they have faithfully promised to do, but have not hitherto effected.

"'The Commissioners are of Opinion that the most effectual method to retain and secure the Six Nations to the British Interest will be to build Two Forts, One in the Onondago the Other in the Seneca Country, and that each Fort be supplied with a proper Missionary. They are further of Opinion that the Carrying and Selling Rum in the Castles of the Six Nations is of the most pernicious Consequence to the publick Interest of this Colony in particular, and to the British Interest in general, with respect to our Indian Connections.

"'The Commissioners are also of Opinion that no French Man upon any Pretence whatsoever shou'd be suffered to reside or trade amongst the Six Nations, and that the said Six Nations should be directed to send those French Men away who now trade or reside amongst them, and to warn them not to return; Those French

Emissaries having always been of fatal Consequence to the British Interest amongst the Six Nations.

"'A true Copy from the Records of the Indian affairs.

"'PETER WRAXALL, Secy.'

—

"'ALBANY, 18th June, 1754.

"'At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at the House of Robert Luttridge.

"'PRESENT:

"'Peter Winne,
"'Sylvant Vanschaak Recorder,
"'Mynd^t Schuyler,
"'John Beckman,
"'Jacob Coen^s Ten Eyck. } Esquires.

"'His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having sent to Col. Mynd^t Schuyler to know what he should do with Regard to the River Indians at the approaching Interview, Col. Schuyler thought proper to convene the Commissioners that they might answer his Honour upon this Point.

"'They are of Opinion that after the Six Nations arrive in Town it will be Time enough to send a Message to the said River Indians.

"'*Whereas* divers Complaints have been made to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs that the Indians at Chonojahare Castle do forcibly take Rum from the Oswego Traders in their Passage by the said Castle, And also that the Oneido Indians oblige the Traders to let them carry their Goods over the Carrying Place, and to pay them double and sometimes more than double the customary Price which the Germans are ready and willing to take, it is the Opinion, therefore, of this Board, that his Honour be pleased at the approaching Interview to represent the Injustice of these Proceedings to the Six Nations, and that it is a Breach of their Promises so solemnly made, and a Violation of their Engagements entered into and frequently renewed with former Governors.

"'A true Copy from the Records of Indian Affairs.

"'PETER WRAXALL, Sec^y.'

"A Remonstrance was then read to the Board from the Oswego Traders to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York, of which the following is a Copy:

"'*To His Honour JAMES DELANCEY, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of New York, &c.:*

"'We the Traders (or Handlers) to Oswego most humbly beg Leave to remonstrate to your Honour the many Hazards and Dif-

ficulties We are subject to in Our Passage thither from the ill Treatment We meet with from the Indians (i. e.) in passing the Mohocks and Chonajohare Castles; they board our Battoes with Axes, Knives, &c. and by Force take what Rum they think proper, whooping and yelping as if they gloried in their Depredations, and threatning Murder to any that oppose them; and on our Arrival at the great Carrying Place the Oneido Indians force our Goods from Us at Pleasure to carry over, and not content with making Us pay a most exorbitant Price for each Freight, but rob Us of our Rum, Stores, and other Goods, with a great deal of invective threatning Language, and are generally so numerous that We are obliged to submit to those Impositions or run the Risque of being murdered and robbed of every thing We have; and to put their Schemes the better in Execution they force away the High Germans, who generally attend with their Horses, that we may be under a necessity of employing them and paying whatsoever they please to demand.

"'We therefore humbly pray your Honour to take these our most severe Grievances under due Consideration, and fall upon such methods to redress them as to You in your great Wisdom shall deem most expedient.

"'Accept of our most fervent Prayers for your Welfare and Prosperity, as We ever remain with all due Deference, Gratitude, and Esteem,

"'Sir, Your Honour's most dutiful and most humble Servants.

"Oswego, June 1st, 1754.'

"To which Forty Seven several Names were signed.

"The following Gentlemen were appointed a Committee to prepare the Draught of a general Speech to be made by his Honour to the Indians, vizt:

"William Johnson,
"Saml Wells,
"Theodore Atkinson,
"Elisha Williams,
"Martin Howard, Junr
"Isaac Norris,
"Benj^{a} Tasker, Junr
} Esquires.

"To whom were delivered the aforesaid Papers.

"Adjourned till to-Morrow Morning."

"At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany on Thursday, 20th June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"His Honour and the aforesaid Council of New York, and several of the Commissioners.

"The Committee appointed Yesterday to prepare a Draught of a general Speech to be made to the Indians not being ready to make their Report, adjourned till to-Morrow Morning."

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"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Friday 21st June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Council of New York aforesaid, all the Commissioners, and Thomas Hutchinson, Esquire, one of the Commissioners of Massachusets Bay.

"It was proposed by the Governor that to avoid all Disputes about the Precedency of the Colonies they should be named in the Minutes according to their Situation from North to South, which was agreed to.

"Peter Wraxall, Esquire, was chosen Secretary to this Board.

"The Committee delivered in their Draught of the general Speech, which was read thro', and afterwards Paragraph by Paragraph.

"Objections were made to some Parts, the Board not coming to any Conclusion on the same they adjourned till to-Morrow Morning."

—

"At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany, Saturday 22d June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Council of New York aforesaid and all the Commissioners except John Chandler, Esqr., One of the Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.

"The Consideration of the Draught of the general Speech was resumed, and one being agreed upon, Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Peters were desired to wait upon the Lieutenant Governor with the same.

"Adjourned till Monday Morning."

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Monday 24th June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Council of New York aforesaid and all the Commissioners.

"A Motion was made that the Thanks of this Board be given to the Reverend Mr. Peters, One of the Commissioners for Pennsylvania, for his Sermon preached yesterday, and that he be desired to suffer the same to be printed, which was unanimously agreed to.

"Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters were desired to wait upon his Honour to request him to administer an Oath to Mr. Wraxall for the due and faithful Discharge of his Office of Secretary to this Board.

"Adjourned to 3 o'Clock this Afternoon."

—

"At a Meeting as aforesaid in the Afternoon the 24th June, 1754.

"PRESENT:

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor and the Council aforesaid of the Province of New York and all the Commissioners.

"Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters reported to the Board that Mr. Wraxall had been sworn into his Office by his Honour conformable to their Desire in the Morning.

"A Motion was made that the Commissioners deliver their Opinion whether an Union of all the Colonies is not at present absolutely necessary for their Security and Defence.

"The Question was accordingly put, and it passed in the Affirmative unanimously.

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor made a Proposal as a Branch of Indian affairs under the Consideration of this Board to build Two Forts in the Indian Country to protect them, their Wives and Children, as the best Expedient to secure their Fidelity to his Majesty.

"Which Proposal the Board determined to proceed upon after they had considered some Method of effecting the Union between the Colonies.

"On a Motion that a Committee be appointed to prepare and receive Plans and Schemes for the Union of the Colonies and to digest them into one general Plan for the Inspection of this Board,

"'*Resolved*, That Each Government chuse One of their own Number to be of that Committee.'

"Accordingly were appointed,

"Thomas Hutchinson, Esquire, for Massachusets Bay.

"Theodore Atkinson, Esquire, for New Hampshire.

"William Pitkin, Esquire, for Connecticut.

"Stephen Hopkins, Esquire, for Rhode Island.

"Benjamin Franklin, Esquire, for Pennsylvania.

"Benjamin Tasker, Esquire, for Maryland.

"It was left to his Honour to appoint One of his Majestie's Council for the Government of New York, and he named William Smith, Esquire.

"Adjourned till to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock."

—

"At a Meeting in the Court House in Albany on Tuesday the 25th June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"Joseph Murray,
"William Johnson, &
"John Chambers, } Esquires, of the Council of New York.

"Roger Wolcot,
"Elisha Williams, } Esquires, Commiss^rs for Connecticut.

"Samuel Wells,
"John Chandler,
"Oliver Partridge, &
"John Worthington, } Esquires, Commiss^rs for Massachusets Bay.

"Richard Wybert,
"Meshech Weare,
"Henry Sherborne, Jr., } Esquires, Commissioners for New Hampshire.

"Martin Howard, Junr Esquire, a Commissioner for Rhode Island.

"John Penn & Isaac Norris, Esquires, Commissioners for Pennsylvania.

"Abraham Barnes, Esquire, a Commissioner for Maryland.

"The Draught of the general Speech not being returned to the Board from his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York, Adjourned to 5 o'Clock this Afternoon."

"At a Meeting as aforesaid Tuesday the 25th June, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"All the Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

"Mr. Murray delivered to the Board, for their Approbation his Honour's Alterations and Additions to the Draught of the Speech presented to his Honour by Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Peters the twenty-second Instant, which were read to the Board by the Secretary, and the further Consideration thereof was deferred till to-morrow morning.

"Adjourned till Eleven o'Clock to-morrow morning."

—

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Wednesday 26th June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT.

"William Johnson, &
"John Chambers, } Esquires, of the Council of New York.

"William Pitkin,
"Roger Wolcot,
"Elisha Williams, } Esquires, Commissioners for Connecticut.

"Samuel Wells,
"John Chandler,
"Thomas Hutchinson, &
"Oliver Patridge, } Esquires, Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.

"Martin Howard, Junr., Esquire, a Commr for Rhode Island.

"The Draught of the general Speech to the Six Nations was further debated, but not being fully concluded upon the Board adjourned till 10 o'Clock to-morrow morning."

—

"At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany, Thursday 27th June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

"The Draught of the general Speech was further debated, and not being fully concluded upon the Board adjourned to Five o'Clock this Afternoon."

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, June 27th, 1754, Thursday, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

"A motion was made that the Commissions or Powers from the several Governments should be made Part of the Records of this Congress. It was unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be prefixed to these Records.

"The Draught of the general Speech was settled, read, and unanimously approved of, and is as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'I have invited You here by the Command of the great King, our common Father, to receive a Present from him, and in his name to renew the antient Treaty between this and all his other Governments and You our Brethren; and I have the Pleasure to tell You that by his special Order there are now present Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Maryland; Virginia and Carolina likewise desire to be considered as present, although some great Affairs which those Governments are engag'd in have prevented their sending Commissions. We are glad to see our Brethren here in Health, and heartily bid You welcome.'

"A Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'We condole You and our Loss in the Death of some of your People since the last Interview in this Place. We wipe away all Tears from your Eyes and take away Sorrow from your Hearts that You may speak freely.'

"Three Strings of Wampum.

"'Brethren:

"We come to strengthen and brighten the Chain of Friendship. It gives Us great Satisfaction that You have lately added two Links to the Chain—the Shaniharadighroones and the Teddirighroones, as it will always give Us Pleasure to see your Strength encreased. This Chain hath remained firm and unbroken from the Beginning. This Belt will represent to You our Disposition to preserve it strong and bright so long as the Sun and Moon shall endure. And in the Name of the great King our Father, and in the Behalf of all his Majestie's Colonies, We now solemny renew, brighten, and strengthen the antient Covenant Chain and promise to keep the same inviolable and free from Rust, and We expect the like Confirmation and Assurance on your Part.'

"A Chain Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'We are informed that You now live dispersed from each Other contrary to the antient and prudent Custom of your Forefathers, and as You are by this means exposed to the Attempts of your Enemies, We, therefore, in the most earnest Manner recommend to and expect from You for your own Safety to collect Yourselves together and dwell in your National Castles. We desire You, Brethren of the Onondago Nation in particular, to call in your Friends and Relations to join You, especially those of your Nation who now live at Osweegachie. A brave People separated from each Other may easily fall a Sacrifice, whereas united they may live secure and uninjured.'

"A Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'We have something to say to You of great Importance. The Treaty subsisting between Us and You our Brethren, as well as the great Affection We bear towards You, oblige Us to mention it.

"'The French profess to be in perfect Friendship with Us as well as You; notwithstanding this they are making continual Encroachments upon Us both. They have lately done so in the most insulting manner, both to the Northward and Westward. Your Fathers by their Valour above one hundred Years ago gained a considerable Country, which they afterwards of their own accord put under the Protection of the King of Great Britian. The French are endeavouring to possess themselves of this whole Country, altho' they have made the most express Treaties with the English to the contrary.'

"'Brethren:

"'It appears to Us that these Measures of the French must necessarily soon interrupt and destroy all Trade and intercourse between the English and the several Indian Nations on the Continent, and will block up and obstruct the great Roads which have hitherto lain open between You and your Allies and Friends who live at a Distance.

"'We want to know whether these Things appear to You in the same Light as they do to Us, or whether the French taking Possession of the Lands in your Country and building Forts between the Lake Erie and the River Ohio be done with your Consent or Approbation.'

"A large Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'Open your Hearts. Deal with Us as Brethren. We are ready to consult with You how to scatter these Clouds that hang over Us. This is a Matter of so great Weight that We think it best to defer mentioning any other Affairs till You have considered

this, least they should take away Part of that Attention which is necessary on so extraordinary an Occasion.'

"A Belt.

"Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eleven o'Clock."

—

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Friday 28th June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"John Chandler,
"Oliver Patridge,
"John Worthington, } Esquires, Commissioners from Massachusets Bay.

"Richard Wibird,
"Meshec Weare, &
"Henry Sherburne, } Esquires, Commissioners for New Hampshire.

"Roger Wolcott,
"Elisha Williams, } Esquires, Commissioners for Connecticut.

"Martin Howard, Junr Esquire, Commissioner for Rhode Island.

"John Penn, Esquire, One of the Commissioners for Pennsylvania.

"The Board was adjourned till Five o'Clock this afternoon."

—

"At a Meeting &c. on Friday, P. M., June 28th, 1754.

"PRESENT:

"The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.

"All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay.

"All the Commissioners from New Hampshire.

"All the Commissioners from Connecticut.

"Stephen Hopkins, Esquire, one of the Commissioners from Rhode Island.

"John Penn and Benjamin Franklin, Esquires, Commissioners from Pennsylvania.

"Benjamin Tasker, Junr Esquire, One of the Commissioners from Maryland.

"The Committee appointed the 24th Instant to prepare and receive Plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies, presented short Hints of a Scheme for that Purpose, of which Copies were taken by the Commissioners of the respective Provinces.

"Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'Clock."

"At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany, Saturday 29th June, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"William Smith, Esquire, One of the Council of New York, and all the Commissioners.

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York having given notice to this Board that He was going to speak to the Indians, the Board adjourned till Five o'Clock this Afternoon and attended his Honour whilst he delivered the Speech."

—

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Saturday 29th June, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"Joseph Murray, John Chambers, and William Smith, Esquires. of the Council of New York.

"All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay.

"Theodore Atkinson and Richard Wibird, Esquires, Commissioners for New Hampshire.

"All the Commissioners from Connecticut.

"The Commissioners from Rhode Island.

"All the commissioners from Pennsylvania.

"The Commissioners from Maryland.

"The Board being informed that a considerable number of Indians from Stockbridge, being of the Nation known by the Name of the River Indians, were in Town, a Motion was made that his Honour the Lieutenant Governor might be acquainted with the Circumstances of said Indians, and desired to give Orders for their Support.

"The said Motion was agreed to, and Mr. Wells and Mr. Franklin were appointed to wait on his Honour accordingly.

"The Hints of a Scheme for the Union of the Colonies were debated on but came to no Conclusion.

"Adjourned till Monday Morning, 9 o'Clock."

—

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Monday July 1st, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Lieutenant Governor and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.

"All the Commissioners for Massachusets Bay except John Chandler, Esquire.

"Theodore Atkinson and Henry Sherburne, Junr. Esquires, Commissioners for New Hampshire.

"The Commissioners for Connecticut.

"The Commissioners for Rhode Island.

"All the Commissioners for Pennsylvania.

"The Commissioners for Maryland.

"Mr. Franklin reported to the Board that he had with Mr. Wells (Mr. Wells not then present) waited on the Lieutenant Governor, and delivered the Message from the Board of Saturday last relating to the River Indians living near Stockbridge, and that his Honour was pleased to answer, that he had not sent for those Indians; that he had consulted his Council and enquired of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, and was informed that it had never been usual to afford Subsistance to those Indians at any Treaty in Albany; that it was a great Expence to New York to maintain the other Indians; that these properly belonged to Massachusets Bay Government, and it appeared to him that they should be supported by that Government.

"Upon a Motion made the Records of Indian Affairs of the Province of New York were sent for, and it appeared that the River Indians have usually been present at the Treaties with the Six Nations, and that a Speech has always been made to said River Indians; and it was moved to the Lieutenant Governor of New York that He would now speak to them in the Name of the Commissioners from the several Colonies, and also give Orders for their Support.

"His Honour agreed to the Proposal of speaking to them, and offered to give Orders for their Support, but was pleased to say that he expected the Commissioners for the several Provinces would contribute to the Charge of it.

"His Honour delivered to the Board Copies of Two Minutes of Council, which are as follow:

"At a Council held in the City of Albany the 27th June, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable JAMES DELANCEY, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c.

"Mr. Murray,	"Mr. Chambers,
"Col. Johnson,	"Mr. Smith.

"His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpreter that the Lower Castle of the Mohock Indians now in this City had some Business to lay before him, and desired to be admitted to an Audience,

appointed them to attend at four o'Clock this afternoon in Council, and they attending accordingly were introduced with the Interpreter.

"The Governor told them he was very glad to see them, that he was now met in Council, and ready to hear what they had to say. Whereupon Canadagaia, their Speaker, addressing himself to his Honour spoke as follows:

"'Brother:

"'We are here this Day by God's Will and your Honour's Order, to which Place you have led Us as it were by the Hand. This is our old Meeting Place, where if we have any Grievances We can lay them open. You are lately come to the Administration, and We are glad to see You to lay our Complimeents before You. We take it very kind You have given Us this Opportunity to unfold our Minds, and We will now proceed to declare our Grievances.

"'Brother:

"'We shall now open our Minds, and We beg You will take Time to consider what We shall say, and not give Us too hasty an Answer, or in two or three Words, and then turn your Back upon Us. As You are a new Governor We beg you will treat Us tenderly, and not as the former Governor did, who turned his Back upon Us before We knew he intended to depart, so that We had no Opportunity to finish our Business with him. The Reason We desire You would treat Us in this tender manner is because this is the Place where we are to expect a Redress of our Grievances, and We hope all Things will be so settled that We may part good Friends.

"'Brother:

"'We told You a little while ago that We had an Uneasiness on our Minds, and We shall now tell You what it is—It is concerning our Land. We understand that there are Writings for all our Lands, so that We shall have none left but the very Spot We live upon, and hardly that. We have examined amongst the elderly People who are now present if they have sold any of it, who deny that they ever have; and We earnestly desire that You will take this into Consideration, which will give Us great Satisfaction, and convince Us that You have a Friendship for Us. We don't complain of those who have honestly bought the Land they possess, or of those to whom We have given any, but of some who have taken more than We have given them. We find We are very poor. We thought We had yet Land round about Us but it is said there are Writings for it all. It is one Condition of the antient Covenant Chain that if there be any Uneasiness on either Side, or any Request to be made, they shall be considered with a Brotherly Regard, and We hope You will fulfill that Condition on your Side, as We shall be always ready to do on Ours. We have embraced this Op-

portunity of unbosoming Ourselves to You with Regard to our Castle, and We are well assured that the other Castle of the Mohocks have complaints of the same Nature to make when they come down. We have now declared our own Grievances, and the Connajoharys will declare theirs, but that We shall leave them. By this Belt We desire You to consider what we have said, and by the same We inform You that the Five Nations have something to say to You before You speak to them.'

"Gave a Belt.

"The Governor said:

"'You have now unbosomed yourselves to me, and desire I would seriously consider of what You have said, and not give you a hasty Answer. I will consider of it seriously, and you shall always find me ready to redress any of your Grievances as far as it may be in my Power; but your Complaints are general, I must therefore desire You to tell me where those Lands lye, and the names of the Persons of whom you complain.'

"To which their Speaker answered:

"'Brother:

"'We are told a large tract of Land has been taken up called Kayadarosseras, beginning at the half Moon, and so up along Hudson's River to the Third Fall, and thence to the Cachnawaga or Canada Creek, which is about four or five Miles above the Mohocks, which upon Enquiry among our old Men We cannot find was ever sold; And as to the particular Persons many of them live in this Town, but there are so great a number We cannot name them.'

"The Governor said: 'I will send for some of the Patentees, or the Persons claiming that Land, and hear what they have to say, and consider the Matter and give You an answer before You leave this Place. It is agreeable to Justice to hear both Parties before a Judgment is given, and to manifest my Friendship for You I will do You all the Justice in my Power.'

"A true Copy, Examined by

"GEO. BANYAR, D. C^lk. Council."

—

"At a Council held in the City of Albany the 28th Day of June, 1754.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable JAMES DELANCEY, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &^ca.

"Mr. Murray, "Mr. Chambers,
"Col. Johnson, "Mr. Smith.

"His Honour being informed that the Connajoharys, or the Up-

per Castle of the Mohock Indians, and several Sachems of each of the other Five Nations, attended without and desired to speak to him, they were introduced with the Interpreter.

"Hendrick, their Speaker, spoke as follows:

"'Brother:

"'We had a Message from You some time ago to meet You at this Place where the Fire burns. We of Connajohara met the Messenger You sent with a Letter at Col. Johnson's, and as soon as We received it We came down running, and the Six Nations are now here compleat.'

"The Governor then said: 'Brethren of the Six Nations, you are welcome. I take this Opportunity, now You are all together, to condole the Loss in the Death of your Friends and Relations since You last met here, and with this String of Wampum I wipe away your Tears and take Sorrow from your Hearts, that You may open your Minds and speak freely.'

"A String of Wampum.

"Hendrick replied:

"'Brother:

"'We thank You for condoling our Loss, and for wiping away our Tears that We may speak freely, and as We do not doubt but You have lost some of your great Men and Friends We give you this String of Condolence in Return, that it may remove your Sorrow and that We may both speak freely.'

"Gave a String.

"Then Hendrick, addressing himself to the Six Nations, said that last Year he attended Col. Johnson to Onondago to do Service to the King and their People, that Col. Johnson told them a new Governor was expected soon, and they would then have an Opportunity of seeing him at Albany and laying their Grievances before him. That the new Governor arrived soon after, and scarcely had they heard of his Arrival but they had an Account of his Death, and that now he was glad to see his Honour to whom he would declare his Grievances, And then proceeded:

"'Brother:

"'We thought You would wonder that We of Connajohara staid so long, We shall now give You the Reason: Last Summer We of Connajohara were down at New York to make our Complaints, and We then thought the Covenant Chain was broken because We were neglected, and when You neglect Business the French take Advantage of it, for they are never quiet. It seemed to Us that the Governor turned his Back upon the Five Nations as if they were no more, whereas the French are doing all in their Power to draw Us over to them. We told the Governor last Summer We blamed him for the Neglect of the Five Nations, and at the same Time We told

him the French were drawing the Five Nations away to Oswegashaa owing to that Neglect, which might have been prevented if proper Use had been made of that Warning, but now We are afraid it is too late. We remember how it was in former Times when We were a strong and powerful People Col. Schuyler used frequently to come among Us, and by this means We were kept together.

"'Brother:

"'We the Mohocks are in very difficult Circumstances, and are blamed for Things behind our Backs which We do not deserve. Last Summer when We went up with Col. Johnson to Onondago and he made his Speech to the Five Nations, the Five Nations said they liked the Speech very well but that the Mohocks had made it. We are looked upon by the other Nations as Col. Johnson's Counsellors, and supposed to hear all News from him, which is not the Case, for Col. Johnson does not receive from or impart much News to Us.

"'This is our Reason for staying behind, for if We had come first the other Nations would have said that We made the Governor's Speech, and therefore, though We were resolved to come, We intended the other Nations should go before Us that they might hear the Governor's Speech, which We could hear afterwards.

"'There are some of our People who have large open Ears and talk a little broken English and Dutch, so that they sometimes hear what is said by the Christians Settlers near them, and by this means We came to understand that We are looked upon to be a proud Nation and therefore staid behind. 'Tis true and known We are so, and that We the Mohocks are the Head of all the other Nations. Here they are and they must own it. But it was not out of Pride We Conajoharys staid behind, but for the Reasons We have already given.'

"His Honour answered—

"'Brethren of Conajohary: You have now told me the Reason why You staid behind, because You would not be blamed by the other Nations as You have been before. I am satisfied with what You say that your staying behind did not proceed from Pride.

"'You tell me You have large open Ears and that some of You understand a little of the Language of the Settlers about You. But I must caution You not to hearken to common Reports, neither of Us or your Brethren of the other Nations. I desire that We may all speak freely and open our Hearts to each other, and to remove any Jealousies from amongst Us.

"'I hope that at another Interview You will all be more punctual and keep as near as You can to the Time appointed. You are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me and the Commissioners

from the other Governments to be detained so long in this Place at so great a Distance from our Homes.'

"A true Copy, Examined by

"GEO. BANYAR, Dy C. of the Council."

"A motion was made that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies, which was agreed to, and that the Gentlemen who were appointed to prepare and receive Plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies the 24th Ultimo, should be a Committee for this Purpose.

"The Plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated, but the Board came to no Resolve upon it.

"Adjourned till 9 o'Clock to-morrow morning."

—

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Tuesday the 2d July, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"All the Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Maryland.

"After Debates held on the Plan of an Union, it was moved if the Board should proceed to form the Plan of an Union of the Colonies to be established by an Act of Parliament.

"Whereupon it was moved to put the previous Question, which passed in the Negative. The Question was then put whether the Board should proceed to form the Plan of a Union of the Colonies to be established by Act of Parliament, which passed in the Affirmative.

"Adjourned till three o'Clock in the Afternoon."

—

"At a Meeting as aforesaid on Tuesday the 2d July, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Lieutenant Governor and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners from the several Governments above mentioned.

"The answer of the Six Nations to the general Speech made to them on Saturday last by his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York, in his Majestie's Name and in the Presence and Behalf

of the several Governments on the Continent therein named, was read and is as follows:

"Abraham, Sachem of the Upper Castle of the Mohocks, rose up and said:

"'Brethren, You the Governor of New York and the Commissioners of the other Governments, are You ready to hear Us?'

"The Governor replied they were all ready.

"Then Hendrick, Brother to the said Abraham and a Sachem of the said Castle, rose up and spoke in Behalf of the Six Nations as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'Just now You told Us You were ready to hear Us; hearken to me.

"'Brother Corlear and Brothers of the other Governments:

"'Saturday last You told Us that You came here by Order of the Great King our common Father, and in his Name to renew the antient Chain of Friendship between this and the other Governments on the Continent and Us the Six United Nations; and You said also that there were then present Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, and that Virginia and Carolina desired to be considered also as present. We rejoice that by the King's Orders We are all met here this Day, and are glad to see each Other Face to Face.

"'We are very thankful for the Same, and We look upon the Governors of South Carolina and Virginia as also present.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'We thank You in the most hearty manner for your Condolence to Us. We also condole all your Friends and Relations who have died since our last Meeting here.'

"Gave three Strings of Wampum.

"'Brethren (holding the Chain Belt given by his Honour and the several Governments in his Hand):

"'We return You all our grateful acknowledgements for renewing and brightening the Covenant Chain. This Chain Belt is of very great Importance to our United Nations and all our Allies. We will therefore take it to Onondago where our Council Fire always burns, and keep it so securely that neither Thunder nor Lightning shall break it. There we will consult over it, and as We have Lately added two Links to it so We will use our Endeavours to add as many Links more to it as lies in our Power, and We hope when We show You this Belt again We shall give You Reason to rejoice at it by your seeing the Vacancies in it filled up (referring to his

Honour's Explanations of it in the general Speech): In the meantime We desire that You will strengthen Yourselves and bring as many into this Covenant Chain as You possibly can. We do now solemnly renew and brighten the Covenant Chain with our Brethren here present, and all our other absent Brethren on the Continent.

"'Brethren:

"'As to the accounts You have heard of our living dispersed from each other, 'tis very true. We have several Times endeavoured to draw off those our Brethren who are settled at Osweegachie, but in vain, for the Governor of Canada is like a wicked deluding Spirit. However, as You desire, We shall persist in our Endeavours.

"'You have asked Us the Reason of our living in this dispersed Manner. The Reason is, your neglecting Us for these three Years past. [Then taking a Stick and throwing it behind his Back.] You have thus thrown Us behind your Backs, and disregarded Us, whereas the French are a subtle and Vigilant People, ever using their utmost Endeavours to seduce and bring our People over to them.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'As to the Encroachments of the French and what You have said to Us on that Article in the Behalf of the King our Father, as these Matters were laid before Us as of great Importance so We have made a strict Enquiry amongst all our People, if any of them have either sold or given the French Leave to build the Forts You mention, and We cannot find that either any Sale has been made or Leave has been given, but the French have gone thither without our Consent or Approbation, nor ever mentioned it to Us.

"'Brethren:

"'The Governor of Virginia and the Governor of Canada are both quarrelling about Lands which belong to Us; And such a Quarrel as this may end in our Destruction. They fight who shall have the Land. The Governors of Virginia and Pennsylvania have made Paths thro' our Country to trade, and built Houses without acquainting Us with it. They should first have asked our Consent to build there, as was done when Oswego was built.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'It is very true, as you told Us, that the Clouds hang heavy over Us, and it is not very pleasant to look up, but We give You this Belt (giving a Belt) to clear away all Clouds that We may all live in bright Sunshine and keep together in strict Union and Friendship, then We shall become strong and nothing can hurt Us.

"'Brethren:

"'This is the antient Place of Treaty where the Fire of Friend-

always Used to burn, and it is Now three Years since We have been called to any Public Treaty here.

"'It is true there are Commissioners here, but they have never invited Us to smoke with them (by which they mean the Commissioners had never invited them to any Conferences), but the Indians of Canada come frequently and smoke here, which is for the Sake of the Bearer; but We hate them (meaning the French Indians), We have not as yet confirmed the Peace with them; It is your Fault, Brethren, that We are not strengthened by Conquest, for We would have gone and taken Crown Point but You hindered Us. We had concluded to go and take it, but We were told it was too late, and that the Ice would not bear Us. Instead of this You burnt your own Fort at Saraghtoga and run away from it, which was a Shame and a Scandal to You. Look about your Country and see you have no Fortifications about You; no, not even to this City. It is but one step from Canada hither, and the French may easily come and turn You out of your Doors.

"'Brethren:

"'You desired Us to speak from the Bottom of our Hearts, and We shall do it. Look about You and see all these Houses full of Beaver, and the Money is all gone to Canada; likewise Powder, Lead, and Guns, which the French now make Use of at Ohio.

"'Brethren:

"'The Goods which go from hence to Oswego go from thence to Ohio, which further enables the French to carry on their Designs at the Ohio.

"'Brethren:

"'You were desirous that We should open our Minds and our Hearts to You. Look at the French, they are Men; they are fortifying every where. But We are ashamed to say it, You are all like Women, bare and open without any Fortifications.'

"Here Hendrick ended his Speech. His Brother Abraham then rose up and said:

"'Brethren:

"'We would let You know what was our Desire three Years ago when Col. Johnson laid down the Management of Indian Affairs, which gave Us great Uneasiness. The Governor then told Us it was not in his Power to continue him, but that he would consult with the Council at New York, that he was going over to England, and promised to recommend our Desire that Col. Johnson should have the Management of Indian Affairs to the King, that the new Governor might have Power to reinstate him. We long waited in Expectation of this being done, but hearing no more of it We embrace this Opportunity of laying this Belt (and gave a Belt) before all our Brethren here present, and desire them that Col.

Johnson may be reinstated and have the Management of Indian Affairs, for We all lived happy whilst they were under his Management, for We love him and he has always been our good and trusty Friend.

"'Brethren:

"'I forgot something. We think our Request about Col. Johnson which Governor Clinton promised to carry to the King our Father is drowned in the Sea. The Fire here is burnt out, and (turning his Face to the New York Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany, who were there present) desired them to take Notice of what he said.'

"Which answer from the Indians was debated Paragraph by Paragraph, and those Gentlemen who were appointed a Committee to prepare a general Speech the 19th Ultimo were now appointed to draw up a Reply.

"Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'Clock."

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"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Wednesday, 3d July, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"John Chambers & "William Smith, } Esquires, of the Council of New York.

"Samuel Wells, "John Chandler, & "Oliver Patridge, } Esquires, Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.

"Theodore Atkinson & Rich^d. Wybert, Esq^rs, Comm^rs from N. Hampshire.

"The Commissioners from Connecticut.

"Martin Howard, Esquire, a Commissioner from Rhode Island.

"All the Commissioners from Pennsylvania.

"Benjamin Tasker, Esqr., One of the Com^rs from Maryland.

"A Draught of the Reply proposed to be made to the Speech of the Six Nations of the First Instant, which the Committee appointed Yesterday Afternoon had drawn up, was read. Mr. Chambers desired to carry it to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor for his Opinion, which was agreed to.

"Took their Seats at the Board,

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor.

"Joseph Murray and William Johnson, Esquires, of the Council of New York.

"Thomas Hutchinson and John Worthington, Esquires, Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.

"Mesheck Wear and Henry Sherburne, Esquires, Commissioners for New Hampshire.

"Stephen Hopkins, One of the Commissioners from Rhode Island.

"Abraham Barnes, Esquire, One of the Commissioners from Maryland.

"His Honour laid before the Board certain Matters which he proposed to be inserted in the Reply to be made to the Six Nations, which, together with the Draught from the Committee, was read and debated.

"The Commissioners from Pennsylvania also laid before the Board an Addition in Behalf of their Province, and proposed it to be added to the Reply. The Commissioners from Massachusets, New Hampshire, and Connecticut, proposed also some Additions.

"These several Draughts being read and considered, the following Reply to the Six Nations was agreed upon by the Board:

"'Brethren:

"'It gives Us great Pleasure to see You so ready to renew and brighten the antient Chain of Friendship. We wish the further Extension of it, and shall not fail joining our utmost Endeavours for that Purpose.

"'Brethren:

"'We are sorry that any Neglect has been shown to You, and We hope that nothing of that Kind will happen hereafter or any Misunderstanding arise between You and any of his Majestie's Governments. You are our old and Steady Friends. We assure You not one Thought has ever come into our Minds of rejecting You. Our Hearts have ever been warm towards You, and We now gladly meet and open our Hearts to You; the Covenant is renewed, the Chain is brightened, the Fire burns clear, and We hope all Things will be pleasant on both Sides for the Future.'

"A Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'We gladly understand that You gave no Countenance to the French who went to Ohio and have entered on your Lands; they are always your and our open or secret Enemies. You did put this Land under the King our Father. He is now taking care to preserve it for You. For this End, among Others, He has directed Us to meet You here, for altho' the Land is under the King's Government, yet the Property or Power of selling it to any of his Majestie's Subjects having Authority from him, We always considered as Vested in You.

"'Brethren:

"'You say that the Governors of Virginia and Canada are fighting about Lands belonging to you, and that the Governors of Virginia and Pennsylvania have opened new Roads and built Houses at Ohio.

"'What You say is a great Surprize to Us. We all know that for Five Years past in the Face of all the Six Nations, in open Day Light the French have been marching Troops into that Country, which We ever did and do still acknowledge to belong to You, tho' within your Father the King of Great Britain's Dominions, and under his Protection. And the French did publish every where their Designs to build Forts and drive away the English Traders, and they did carry them into Execution by seizing the Traders, And did last Year actually build Two Forts in that Country. But we never heard, notwithstanding these open Hostilities of the French, that ever Virginia or Pennsylvania sent one Soldier or built one House for their and your Protection till this present Year.

"'It is fortunate that Mr. Weiser, who transacts the publick Business of Virginia and Pennsylvania with your Nations, and is one of your Council and knows these Matters well, is now present. Hear the account he gives, and that will set this matter in a true Light.'

"Mr. Weiser was then to say as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'The Road to Ohio is no new Road, it is an old and frequented Road; the Shawonese and Delawares removed thither above thirty Years ago from Pennsylvania, ever since which that Road has been travelled by our Traders at their Invitation, and always with Safety, until within these few Years that the French with their usual Faithlessness sent armies there, threatned the Indians, and obstructed our Trade with them. The Governor of Virginia observing these Hostilities in Time, of full Peace, sent his Majesty an Account of them. His Majesty was pleased to order his Governor to hold an Interview with the Six Nations to consult measures with them how to put a Stop to these French Proceedings, equally injurious to them as to his Subjects. And that they might better know them it was thought the Interview might best be held at some Place near the Country where these hostile Proceedings were carried on. His Majesty likewise ordered a Present to the Six Nations as a further Token of his affection for them. Accordingly Mr. Weiser in 1750 was sent to Onondago by the Governor of Virginia, and invited the Indians to come and treat at Fredericksburg, in that Province, and receive the King's Present, but could not prevail. The Governor of Virginia finding the French still continuing their Hostilities, sent Commissioners in 1751 to the Indians at Ohio and delivered them the King's Present, and by a Belt of Wampum proposed that a strong House might be built near the mouth of Mohongiale for their mutual Protection. The Indians made answer that they were well pleased with the Proposal, and would send that Belt to Onondago and join one of their own to it. Nothing was heard of this Belt, and the last Year the French invaded

the Country of Ohio with a strong hand, whereupon the Indians residing there, your Flesh and Blood, sent repeated Messages to the Governor of Virginia to send his Young Men to their Assistance. But he being a Person of great Forethought and Prudence still forbore to do it, and instead thereof sent two Messages by Mr. Andrew Montour to Onondago for your Advice how to act. It happened that no Council could be called at either Time. The Chiefs of Onondago desired Mr. Montour to tell their Brother the Governor of Virginia to act cautiously, and let the French strike the first Blow.

"'The French then coming nearer and nearer, Tanacharisson (otherwise called the Half King) was sent to them by the United Nations at Ohio, together with the Shawonese and Delawares, to forewarn them off their Land. In the mean time other Chiefs of these several Nations came to Virginia and Pennsylvania and told Us what they had agreed upon in Council, viz': that they the Rest of the Chiefs should come to Us and desire Us to call our People from over the Allegheny Hills, to prevent Bloodshed between the English and French. But when these Indians returned and found that the French paid no Regard to their Warning, but told them positively that if they opposed their taking Possession of that Country they would cut them off, they sent repeated Messages to the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia to apprize them of their, the Indians' immediate Danger, telling them they would find nothing but the Ashes of their Houses and their Bones if they did not forthwith send Warriors and build them a House to fly to. Having a late Example before their Eyes in that the French had fallen upon their Brethren the Twightwees on a sudden and killed them in their Houses, as well as some English who were there trading with them.

"'On this melancholy News, the Governor of Virginia, agreeable to the Request of the Indians, sent People to build an House at the Mouth of Mohongialo; but before they had finished it the French came down the River with a Thousand Men and 18 Cannon, and told the People who were building it, and were but 44 in Number, that they must either fight or give up Possession, which last they were obliged to do on Account of the superior Force of the French.

"'Brethren:

"'This is the Truth, which We have thought proper to relate so particularly that the prudent and cautious Conduct of Virginia might be known to the Six Nations. As to Pennsylvania, they have never sent a Warrior or built a Fort at Ohio. This Belt is given to confirm what is said and that you may remember what has now been related to You.'

"A Belt.

"Here Mr. Weiser's Relation ends.

"'Brethren:

"'You tell Us We are open and defenceless. We are consulting how far it will be necessary to fortify our Frontiers. At the same time We expect You will take Care to keep your People from going over to the French. We are able when united with you to resist any Force the French and their Allies can bring against Us.'

"The following Paragraphs were to be spoken by the Governor of New York in his own Name:

"'Brethren:

"'You have told me that this is the Place of Treaty; that it is now three Years ago since You were asked to smoke a Pipe here; that there are Commissioners, but they have never invited You to smoke with them.

"'It was their Duty on their Appointment to acquaint You with it, and to invite You to smoke with them and to rekindle the Fire, which was then almost extinguished; and if they had done it earlier and before I sent them Directions, it would have been very agreeable to me.

"'Brethren:

"'You say the Houses here are full of Beaver. This is a Trading Place, and the Merchants have a Right to traffick for Beaver or other Skins, which they sometimes pay for in Goods and sometimes in Money. But as to what You say about Guns and Powder being sold to the French, I have made all the Enquiry I could into this Matter and am assured you are misinformed, for that neither Guns nor Powder are sold by any Persons here to the French.

"'Brethren:

"'You tell me that whilst Col. Johnson had the Management of Indian Affairs You all lived happy; that You loved him, and he You, and that he has always been your good and trusty Friend. I am very sensible You had good Reason to look upon him in this Light, and fully convinced that he is still your Friend; but as this is the Place where the antient Fire was kindled, which was nearly burnt out, and as Col. Johnson for some Reasons declined the Management of Indian Affairs, it was thought proper to rekindle the Fire here by appointing Commissioners, whom I shall direct to receive and consult with You upon all Business that may concern our mutual Interests; and I expect that You will for the future apply to them, according to the Custom of your Forefathers, to tell your News, and in Return to receive from them what shall be thought necessary to be imparted to you, and I will give them Directions that they treat You with the Affection due to You as Brethren. I will make Tryal of them another Year, and if You do not meet with the kind Treatment You have a Right to expect, complain to this Government and effectual measures shall be taken for your Satisfaction.'

"Gave a Belt.

"The following was to be spoke by Mr. Kellogg, Interpreter, from Massachusetts Bay:

"'Brethren:

"'We have agreed to tell all News and take Council together. We cannot part till we have told you the News from England, tho' at a considerable Distance from You. The French have the same bad designs there as well as at Ohio. They are very fond to get Kennebeck River. We have News of their beginning a Fort at the Head of that River. A Priest of theirs has built a House a great way down that River. Governor Shirley has raised 800 Men and is gone down to drive them away, and to build an English Fort at the Head or far up the said River Kennebeck. We have News also that the French are building a Fort up Connecticut River Northward of Cowass. The Governor of New Hampshire has now sent a Company of Men up that River to enquire into the Fact, and if true to drive them immediately off. In another Part of the Government of New Hampshire a number of the St. Francis' Indians have lately taken a Family, consisting of a Man and his Wife and three Children, and carried them into Captivity from an Out Settlement on Merrimack River, and this contrary to their solemn Engagement at a Treaty held with them.

"'We have also News that a number of Indians have murdered twenty-one English Fishermen at Canso, and had carried their Scalps to Cape Breton, where they were well received, and it is said rewarded.'

"The Board then adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'Clock.

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"At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany, Thursday, July 4th, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, and all the Commissioners of the several Governments.

"The Plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated, but nothing was finally determined on.

"Adjourned till three O'clock this afternoon.

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"At a Meeting as above, Thursday the fourth July, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"All the Commissioners for the several Governments.

"The Plan for a Union was further considered, but no Resolves made thereupon.

"The Board receiving a Message from his Honour the Governor of New York that the Indians were seated in order to speak to his Honour and the Commissioners, the Board adjourned to nine o'Clock to-morrow morning and waited upon the Governor.

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"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Friday, July 5th, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"All the Commissioners for the several Governments.

"The Rejoinder of the Six Nations, spoke yesterday Afternoon, was read to the Board and Ordered to be minuted as follows:

("The following Speech is chiefly a Rejoinder to the Reply made to the Six Nations on the third Instant:)

"'Brother of New York and Brethren of the several Governments: We on our Sides are equally rejoiced as You have expressed yourselves on the renewing and brightening the antient Covenant Chain between all his Majestie's Governments on the Continent and Us of the Six United Nations.

"'As to what the Governor of New York told Us yesterday, relating to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany, We are much obliged to him for his Promise to direct them to take Notice of Us for the future, that he will try them for one Year longer, and for giving Us Leave to acquaint this Government if they do not treat Us as Brethren.

"'Brethren, We have told the Governor of New York how Col. Johnson has behaved to Us and our Opinion of him, and the Danger we thought Ourselves in by his leaving off the Management of Indian Affairs. If he fails Us We die. However, We agree to what the Governor has proposed to Us. He is Master of all to do what he pleases, and We submit the whole Affair to him.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'We are very thankful to the King, our Father, for ordering Commissioners from so many Governments to meet here in order to enquire into all Matters relating to Us, and to put every thing on a right Footing. We rejoice that We have opened our Hearts to each other, and We return the Governor and all the Commissioners from the several Governments our thanks for the same.

"'Brethren:

"'Some time ago the King, our Father, sent a Present to the Governor of Virginia, who sent a Messenger to the Six Nations that We should come down and receive it, but we cou'd not come. We have since been informed that the Present was sent to Ohio.'

"The Speaker then proceeded to repeat the Substance of what was said to them yesterday on the Part of Pennsylvania by their Interpreter Mr. Weiser:

"'We allow that the Road from Pennsylvania to Ohio is no new Road, but has been travelled there thirty Years by the Traders.

"'We thank the Governor of Virginia for assisting the Indians at Ohio, who are our Relations and Allies; and We approve of the Governor of Pennsylvania not having yet intermeddled in the Affair. He is a wise, a prudent Man, and will Know his own Time.

"'We return the Governor of New York and all the other Governments our most hearty thanks (here the Speaker made Bows to his Honour and all the Commissioners) for the Promise of Protection given Us of our Lands and the Acknowledgment that the Right of settling it is in Us.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'We put You in Mind in our former Speech of the defenceless State of your Frontiers, particularly of this City, of Schenectady, and of the Country of the Five Nations. You told Us Yesterday You were consulting about securing both yourselves and Us. We beg You will resolve on something speedily; You are not safe from Danger one day. The French have their Hatchet in their Hands both at Ohio and in two Places in New England. We don't know but this very Night they may attack Us.

"'One of the principal Reasons why We desire You will be speedy in these Matters is that since Col. Johnson has been in this City there has been a French Indian at his House who took Measure of the Wall round it, and made very narrow Observation on every Thing thereabouts.

"'We think him (Col. Johnson) in very great Danger because the French will take more than ordinary Pains either to kill him or take him Prisoner on account of his great Interest among Us, and being also one of the Five Nations [Col. Johnson is One of their Sachems].'

"Upon this they gave Four Strings of Wampum.

"The Board then proceeded to consider the Plan for a Union, but did not get thro' with it.

"Adjourned to nine O'Clock to-morrow morning.

"At a Meeting held in the Court House at Albany, Saturday, July 6th, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"All the Commissioners for Massachusetts Bay.

"William Pitkin & Roger Wolcot, Esquires, Commissioners for Connecticut.

"The Commissioners for Rhode Island.

"John Penn, Isaac Norris, & Benjamin Franklin, Esquires, Commissioners for Pennsylvania.

"The Commissioners for Maryland.

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor sent to the Board the Speech he proposes to make to the River Indians, which the Board agreed to with a small Addition, which was sent in Writing to the Governor.

"The Board having been informed by Mr. Peters that the Lieutenant Governor of New York sent for him last Night, and told him his Provisions were expended, and he could no longer maintain the Indians, and he expected the Commissioners would maintain them, and gave him the List of what had been allowed ℔ Day to the Five Nations exclusive of the River Indians.

"The Board hereupon resolved that they would take the Charge of supporting the Indians upon themselves.

"Mesheck Weare and Henry Sherburne, Esquires, Commissioners for New Hampshire took their Seats.

"The Committee appointed the first Instant to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies with relation to the French, delivered the same to the Board, which was read and ordered to lie upon the Table for the Consideration of the Commissioners.

"The Secretary presented to the Board a Draught of the Speech which his Honour proposed to deliver to the Six Nations this Afternoon, and also the following Message from his Honour that the Board would please to send him any Alterations or Additions which they might think proper to be made to the same Draught; that his Honour intended when he made the Speech to the Indians to read to them the Act of the General Assembly of New York concerning the Sale of Rum to the Indians; and that he also recommended the Request of the Upper Castle of the Mohocks for a Church to the Board. The Secretary also brought back his Honour's Approbation to the small addition proposed to be made to the Speech intended to be made to the River Indians. Which Speech is as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'I have sent for you here to give you fresh assurances of the

Great King our Father's Protection, and that we might, with the Commissioners whom You now see assembled here from the Governments of Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, strengthen and brighten the Covenant Chain.

"'We are glad to see You at this your old meeting Place, and We do now, in his Majestie's name, and in behalf of all his Colonies, renew the Antient Covenant Chain of Friendship, that it may be stronger and brighter than ever, which We recommend to You to preserve clean and free from Rust by a peaceable and affectionate Behaviour to all your Brethren, and especially to those who live near You, and You may then with Confidence rely on the Favour of this and all his Majestie's Governments.

"'As a Proof of the King your Father's tender Regard for you, I shall deliver You a Present he has sent You, consisting of such Necessaries as You may want, And the Commissioners from Each of the Governments have contributed towards a Present for You also. All which Presents shall be here ready for You in the Afternoon.'

"Elisha Williams, Esquire, Commissioner for Connecticut, took his Seat. On a Motion made and seconded that a Message be sent to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York, relating to the Answer he proposes to make to the Six Nations, Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Franklin were appointed to prepare the same.

"Theodore Atkinson and Richard Wibird, Esquires, Commissioners for New Hampshire, took their Seats; as did also Richard Peters, Esquire, One of the Commissioners for Pennsylvania.

"Mr. Hutchinson reported the following Message:

"'May it please your Honour:

"'The Commissioners from the several Governments now met at Albany, observe that in the Speech your Honour proposes to make this Day to the Indians of the Six Nations, and which You have caused to be communicated to the Board by their Secretary, no Notice is taken of the Complaints of the said Indians relating to their Lands. This Complaint seems, by the Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, which your Honour has laid before the Board, to have been the principal Occasion of this unusual and expensive Meeting of Commissioners from so many Colonies, and it appears by the last Answer from the Indians that their Uneasiness still remains.

"'The Commissioners therefore think it incumbent on them to pray your Honour that they may be acquainted with the particulars of the Complaint, and that they may have an Opportunity of consulting with your Honour proper Measures for removing the Causes thereof.' Which was read and unanimously agreed to, and it was

thereupon ordered that Mr. Wells and Mr. Pitkin wait upon his Honour the Lieutenant Governor with the same.

"Adjourned to three o'Clock this Afternoon."

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"At a Meeting, &c^a^ on Saturday the Sixth July, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, All the Commissioners for New Hampshire, The Commissioners from Connecticut, Stephen Hopkins, Esquire, Commissioner from Rhode Island.

"Mr. Wells reported to the Board that he and Mr. Pitkin had delivered the Message they were appointed in the morning to deliver to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York.

"The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, Martin Howard, Benjamin Franklin, and Abraham Barnes, Esquires, took their Seats.

"Mr. Murray delivered to the Board his Honour the Lieutenant Governor's Answer in Writing to the Message delivered to his Honour in the Morning by Mr. Wells and Mr. Pitkin, which was read, and is as follows:

"'Gentlemen:

"'In answer to your Message to me of this Day, I acquaint You that Yesterday I had the Sachems of the Connajohary Castle before me in Council to conclude the Matter in Controversy between some Germans and one Teady Magin relating to an Indian Purchase that had occasioned the greatest Uneasiness among the Indians of that Castle, which after two Meetings was then formally and finally settled to the Satisfaction of all Parties.

"'I then took Occasion to observe to them that at their Meeting on the second Instant I desired them to open their minds fully, and that I expected they would then have laid all their Complaints before me, That as to what they had mentioned in their publick Speech on the fourth Instant, I was not acquainted with any other particular Complaints until I came to this Place, being abroad on the Circuit at the Time they made them at New York, and then I promised that as soon as I returned thither I would look into them and do all the Justice that lay in my Power, with which they declared themselves well satisfied and thanked me.

"'JAS. DELANCEY.

"'Albany, 6th July, 1754.'

"The Board being obliged to attend at the Interview of the Schaticook and River Indians, Adjourned to Monday Morning at nine o'Clock."

"At a Meeting, &c. at Albany, on Monday the 8th Instant, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"William Johnson and William Smith, Esquires, Two of the Council of New York, and all Commissioners.

"The Speech proposed by his Honour to be made to the Indians of the Six Nations having been again read to the Board, and the Complaint of the Indians relative to their Lands coming under their Consideration, the Board were acquainted that Mr. William Livingstone and Mr. William Alexander, Two of the Heirs or Devises of Philip Livingston, Esquire, Deceased, the Proprietor or Patentee of the Lands on which Connajohary Castle stands, had declared their Readiness to give up all Right to said Patents or such Parts as shall be thought necessary, it was ordered that said Mr. Livingstone and Mr. Alexander be informed that the Board desired to speak with them. Mr. Livingstone and Mr. Alexander being present, informed the Board that their Father was one among other Patentees of the Lands mentioned, that they were interested ⅛ Each of them in their Father's Right.

"The Circumstances of his Title they had made no Enquiry into, but were ready to make any Resignation which either Justice or the publick Service required.

"The Board being informed that his Honour the Lieutenant Governor desired a Gentleman from Each Government might be appointed to be present with him in making Enquiry of the Indians of the Connajohary Castle how far they were satisfied respecting their Land, Mr. Peters and Mr. Howard were appointed to wait on the Governor and acquaint him that the Board agreed to the Proposal; accordingly Mr. Hutchinson was appointed for Massachusetts Bay, Col. Atkinson for New Hampshire, Col. Walcott for Connecticut, Mr. Hopkins for Rhode Island, Mr. Norris for Pennsylvania, Col. Tasker for Maryland.

"Joseph Murray and John Chambers, Esquires, of the Council of New York, took their Seats.

"His Honour's Draught of the Speech he proposes to make to the Six Nations which was delivered to the Board the Sixth Instant was read, and after Debate had thereon relative to the Sale of Rum amongst them and the Connajohary's Desire about a Church, some alterations and additions to it were agreed to be proposed to his Honour.

"The Representation of the present State of the Colonies was again read through, but no final Resolution thereon agreed to.

"The Answers of the Schaakticook and River Indians to the

Speech made them the Sixth Instant were read, and are as follows:

"*The Speech of the Schaakticook Indians.*

"'Father:

"'We are glad that the Governor sees his Children now before him. We are small in number, but next Time we hope we shall be more. Your Honour may see that we are but young and unexperienced, our antient People being almost all dead, so that We have no body to give Us any Advice; but We will do as our Fathers have done before Us.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Father:

"'This Belt came from our Forefathers, and We will be true and faithful to the King as they were.'

"Gave a belt..

"They gave also to the Governor a small Bundle of Skins, and desired that the Sale of Rum might be stopped at Schaakticook, and that if they want it they will come and buy it at Albany.

"*The Speech of the River Indians.*

"'Fathers:

"'We are greatly rejoiced to see You all here. It is by the Will of Heaven that We are met here; and We thank You for this Opportunity of seeing you altogether, as it is a long time since we have had such an One. Fathers who set present here: We will just give You a short Relation of the long Friendship which has subsisted between the White People of this Country and Us. Our Forefathers had a Castle on this River. As One of them walked out he saw some thing on the River, but was at a loss to know what it was. He took it at first for a great Fish; he ran into the Castle and gave Notice to the other Indians. Two of our Forefathers went to see what it was and found it a Vessel with Men in it. They immediately joined Hands with the People in the Vessel and became Friends. The white People told them they shou'd not come any further up the River at that Time, and said to them that they would return back from whence they came and come again in a Year's Time. According to their Promise they returned back in a Year's Time and came as far up the River as where the Old Fort stood. Our Forefathers invited them ashore, and said to them here We will give You a Place to build You a Town, it shall be from this Place up to such a Stream (meaning where the Patroon's Mill now stands), and from the River back up to the Hill.

"'Our Forefathers told them tho' they were now a small People they wou'd in time multiply and fill up the Land they had given them. After they were on shore some time some other Indians who

had not seen them before looked fiercely at them; and our Forefathers observing it, and seeing the White People so few in Number least they should be destroyed, took and sheltered them under their Arms; but it turned out that those Indians did not desire to destroy them, but wished also to have the said White People for their Friends. At this Time which We have now spoken of the White People were small, but We were very numerous and strong; we defended them in that low State, but now the Case is altered.

"'You are numerous and strong—we are few and weak; therefore, We expect that You will act by Us in these Circumstances as We did by You in those We have just now related. We view You now as a very large Tree which has taken deep Root in the Ground whose Branches are spread very wide. We stand by the Body of this Tree and We look round to see if there be any who endeavor to hurt it; and if it should so happen that any are powerful enough to destroy it We are ready to fall with it.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Fathers:

"'You see how early we made Friendship with You. We hid Each other in a very strong Chain, that Chain has not yet been broken; We now clean and rub that Chain to make it brighter and stronger; and We determine on our Parts that it never shall be broken, and We hope You will take Care that neither You nor any one else shall break it, and We are greatly rejoiced that Peace and Friendship have so long subsisted between Us.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Fathers:

"'Don't think strange of what We are about to say. We would say something respecting our Lands. When the White People purchased from Time to Time of Us they said they only wanted to purchase the Low Lands, they told Us the hilly Land was good for nothing, and that it was full of Woods and Stones, but now We see People living all about the Hills and Woods altho' they have not purchased the Lands. When We enquire of the People who live on these Lands what Right they have to them they reply to Us that We are not to be regarded, and that these Lands belong to the King. But We were the first Possessors of them, and when the King has paid Us for them then they may say they are his.

"'Hunting now is growing very scarce, and We are not like to get our Living that Way, therefore We hope our Fathers will take Care that We are paid for our Lands that We may live.'

"Gave a Belt.

"Made a Present of a Bundle of Skins.

"The Board then adjourned to three o'Clock this Afternoon.

"At a Meeting, &ca, Monday, 8th July, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"All the Commissioners except Col. Atkinson, Mr. Norris, and the Commrs of Maryland.

"The Board proceeded in their Consideration upon the Plan for a Union, but did not go thro' with it.

"The Speech proposed to be made to the Six Nations was returned to the Board from his Honour with the Alterations and Additions proposed by the Board in the Morning.

"'*Ordered*, That the said Speech lie upon the Table till some further Matters relating to it be agreed on by the Board.'

"The Committee appointed in the Morning to be present with the Governor of New York at a Conference with the Connajohary Indians returned from the same and reported as follows:

"'That his Honour enquired of the Indians whether they had not expressed themselves satisfied with the measures he had taken concerning their Lands and the Promise that he would enquire further into the affair when he came to New York, to which they replied that they were sensible his Honour was at Albany when they made their Complaints at New York last Year, that he had told them he had now left the Papers there, but would enquire into it when he came there. That they were willing to try one Year more and if Matters were not made up by the Governor, whom they looked on as their Elder Brother, but neglected as they used to be, they wou'd send to all their other Brothers (pointing to the Commissioners) for their Assistance, and that they agreed to this the rather as there were French Indians in Town, and that they did not think it convenient to have any Difference before them.' Upon which his Honour again assured them he wou'd enquire into their affairs in order to their being satisfied, especially as he had the King's Orders for it.

"The Board receiving a Message from his Honour that the Sachems of the Six Nations were attending to be spoke to, the Board adjourned to nine o'Clock to-morrow Morning, and waited upon the Governor.

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"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Tuesday 9th July, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"Joseph Murray and William Smith, Esquires, of the Council of New York, all the Commissrs except Col. Partridge and Mr. Hopkins.

"The publick Conference between his Honour the Lieutenant

Governor of New York and the Commissioners from the several Governments with the Sachems of the Six Nations, yesterday evening, was read and ordered to be entered as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'You told me your Hearts were deeply concerned at the sad Effects which may arise from selling Rum in your respective Countries. I will give Orders that the Laws already made for preventing the Sale of this Liquor among You shall be strictly put in Execution, and whatever further Provision in the Law is necessary, I will endeavour it shall be made, that You may see I take Care of your Health and your Peace, which are hurt and disturbed by the Use of this Liquor among You of the Five Upper Nations. And as to what You of the Mohocks have said I shall consider how far it may be necessary to restrain the People living round You from selling Rum and if I can think of a proper Remedy for this Evil I will endeavour to apply it.

"'Brethren of the Upper Castle of the Mohocks:

"'I am well pleased with your Request to have a Church built amongst You, and I shall do every thing in my Power to promote so good a Work. And it is very agreeable to me and the Commissioners from all the Governments present to find a Disposition in You to receive the Christian Religion.

"'Brethren:

"'As I have given You Satisfaction with respect to one of your Complaints about your Lands, which lay heavy on your Minds, and have assured You that I shall endeavour to do You Justice as to the rest when I come to New York, I shall not say any thing farther to You on that Affair now.'

"The Governor being informed by the Interpreter that they chose to have the Powder divided on the Hill, told them it was in his Opinion better for them to have it sent to Schenactady. Hendrick answered for them, just as his Honour pleased, who told them he would order the Powder to Schenactady and the Rum above the Settlements, with which they expressed themselves satisfied.

"His Honour then said:

"'I have now done speaking to You, but before I cover up the Fire I must recommend it to You to behave quietly and peaceably to all your Brethren and their Castle in your Return home.'

"Hendrick then replied:

"'Your Honour told Us You now covered up the Fire, and We are highly pleased that all Things have been so amicably settled, and hope that all that has passed between Us may be strictly observed on both sides.

"'Brethren of the several Governments:

"'We hope that You will not fail in the Covenant Chain where-with We have mutually bound Ourselves, and now so solemnly renewed and strengthened. If We don't hold fast by this Chain of of Friendship our Enemies will laugh Us to scorn.

"'Brethren:

"'We wish You would all contribute to provide some Provision for Us in our Way home, which will effectually prevent our People from killing the Inhabitants' Cattle, and We desire you will provide some Waggons for Us to go to Schenactady. We think this Expence will fall too heavy upon one Province, as We have the Presents from all to carry up. We beg We may all take Care of the Tree of Friendship and preserve it by our mutual Attention from any Injuries. We will take Care of it on our Sides, and We hope our Brethren will do so on theirs. We wish this Tree of Friendship may grow up to a great Height, and then We shall be a powerful People.

"'Brethren:

"'We the United Nations shall rejoice in the Encrease of our Strength, so that all other Nations may stand in Awe of Us.

"'Brethren:

"'I will just tell You what a People We were formerly. If any of our Enemies rise against Us, We had no Occasion to lift up our whole Hand against them, for our little Finger was sufficient. And as We have now made so strong a Confederacy, if We are truly earnest therein We may retrieve the antient Glory of the Five Nations.

"'Brethren:

"'We have now done, but one Word we must add: The Interpreter, if the French continue their Hostilities, will want any assistance, three or four to be joined with them, but this matter we submit to the Governor. We have now fully finished all that we have to say.'

"The Governor replied:

"'Brethren:

"'It gives me and all the Commissioners here present great Satisfaction that this Interview has concluded so amicably on all sides. I have ordered thirty Waggons to be provided for your Service, which I expect here to-morrow morning; and I have ordered Provisions for you to serve you on your Journey.

"'I hope that by this present Union We shall grow up to a great Height and be as powerful and famous as You were of old.

"'As to the Interpreter, when the Circumstances of this Country require it he shall have the necessary Assistance, and I assure You

in the Name of this Government and all the Governments here present that We shall endeavour to extend and preserve the Covenant Chain by every possible Method in our Power.'

"They asked his Honour when Himself and the Commissioners proposed to return Home. His Honour answered that they had some Matters yet to settle about the Union, and then they should set out for their respective Habitations.

"The Governor then in his own Name and that of the Commissioners wished them a good Journey, and they returned the Compliment, and then the Conferences broke up.

"The answers of the Lieutenant Governor and the Commissioners to the Schaakticook's and River Indians were next read and ordered to be entered as follows:

"*The answer to the Schaakticook Indians.*

"'Children:

"'We condole with You on the Loss of your old and experienced People.'

"A String.

"'Children:

"'I and the Commissioners from the other Governments here present are glad to see that altho' You are young and unexperienced, yet You are willing to take Advice and are determined to remain faithful to the King and friendly to all his Subjects.'

"A Belt.

"*Answer to the River Indians.*

"'Children:

"'We are glad to find that You treasure up in your Memories the mutual Instances of Friendship between our Ancestors and Your's; the Remembrance of that Friendship will descend to our Posterity, and We desire You to hand it down to Your's, and altho' there is a great Alteration in Circumstances since our Predecessors first came among You, yet We have not less Affection for You than they had.'

"A Belt.

"'Children:

"'Your brightening and strengthening the Covenant Chain is well pleasing to me and the Commissioners. We acknowledge You have never broken it; We have likewise preserved it entire, and are determined to continue to do so.'

"A Belt.

"'Children:

"'You complain that some of the People of this Province are

in Possession of your Lands which You never sold; this is a Complaint which affects Persons who live at a Distance. I have ordered Notice to be given them of it, and if upon Enquiry into the Affair it shall appear that You have been injured, I will endeavour to get You redressed, but I shall observe to You that the constant Method of granting Lands in this Province is and has been by Lycence from the Governor to purchase from the Indians, and upon the Purchase being returned before him in Council He with their Advice orders a Patent, and that most of these Lands concerning which You complain were patented when You were Children—some before any of You were born.'

"*Ordered*, That the following Minutes be made, that the last Paragraph of the foregoing Answer to the River Indians about the Manner of patenting Lands in this Province, beginning with the Words *I shall observe* was an Addition made by his Honour to the Draught sent him yesterday by this Board.

"Col. Johnson, Mr. Chambers, Col. Patridge, and Mr. Hopkins, took their Seats.

"The Plan of the Union was debated and agreed upon, and Mr. Franklin was desired to make a Draught of it as now concluded upon.

"Adjourned till Five o'Clock this Evening."

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"At a Meeting, &ca. on Tuesday the Ninth of July, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, and all the Commissioners, except Mr. Franklin, absent by his Appointment in the Morning.

"The Draught of the Representation, &ca. was read and considered Paragraph by Paragraph, some amendments made, and the whole was agreed to and ordered to be minuted as follows:

"'That his Majestie's Title to the Northern Continent of America appears to be founded on the Discovery thereof first made, and the Possession thereof first taken in 1497, under a Commission from Henry the Seventh of England to Sebastian Cabot.

"'That the French have possessed themselves of several Parts of this Continent, which by Treaties have been ceded And confirmed to them.

"'That the Right of the English to the whole Sea Coast from Georgia on the South to the River Saint Lawrence on the North, excepting the Island of Cape Breton and the Islands in the Bay of Saint Lawrence, remains indisputable.

"'That all the Lands or Countries Westward from the Atlantick

Ocean to the South Sea, between 48 and 34 Degrees North Latitude, were expressly included in the Grant of King James the First to divers of his Subjects so long since as the Year 1606, and afterwards confirmed in 1620, and under this Grant the Colony of Virginia claims Extent as far West as the South Sea, and the antient Colonies of the Massachusets Bay and Connecticut were by their respective Charters made to extend to the said South Sea, so that not only the Right to the Sea Coast but to all the Inland Countries from Sea *to* Sea, has at all Times been asserted by the Crown of England.

"'That the Province of Nova Scotia or Acadia hath known and determinate Bounds by the original Grant from King James the First, and that there is abundant Evidence of the Sense which the French had of these Bounds while they were in Possession of it; and that these Bounds being thus known, the said Province, by the Treaty of Utrecht, according to its antient Limits was ceded to Great Britain, and remained in Possession thereof until the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, by which it was confirmed; But by said Treaty it is stipulated that the Bounds of the said Province shall be determined by Commissaries, &c.

"'That by the Treaty of Utrecht the Country of the Five Cantons of the Iroquois is expressly acknowledged to be under the Dominion of the Crown of Great Britain.

"'That the Lake Champlain, formerly called Lake Iroquois, and the Country Southward of it as far as the Dutch or English Settlements, The Lakes Ontario, Erie, and all the Countries adjacent have, by all ancient Authors, French and English, been allowed to belong to the Five Cantons or Nations; and the whole of these Countries long before the said Treaty of Utrecht were by the said Nations put under the Protection of the Crown of Great Britain.

"'That by the Treaty of Utrecht there is reserved to the French a Liberty of frequenting the Countries of the Five Nations and other Indians in Friendship with Great Britain for the Sake of Commerce, as there is also to the English a Liberty of frequenting the Countries of those in Friendship with France for the same Purpose.

"'That after the Treaty of Utrecht the French built several Fortresses in the Country of the Five Nations, and a very strong One at a Place called Crown Point to the South of Lake Champlain.

"'That the French Court hath evidently, since the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, made this Northern Continent more than ever the Object of its Attention.

"'That the French have most unjustly taken Possession of Part of the Province of Nova Scotia, and in the River St. Johns and other Parts of said Province they have built strong Fortresses, and

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from this River they will have during the Winter and Spring Season a much easier Communication between France and Canada than they have heretofore had, and will be furnished with a Harbour more commodiously situated for the annoying the British Colonies by Privateers and Men-of-War than Louisbourg itself.

"'That they have taken Possession of and began at the Head of the River Kennebeck, within the Bounds of the Province of Main, the most convenient Situation for affording Support and safe Retreat to the Eastern Indians in any of their Attempts upon the Governments of New England,

"'That it appears by Information of the Natives the French have been making Preparations for another Settlement at a Place called Cowass on Connecticut River, near the Head thereof, where it is about Ten Miles distant from a Branch of Merrimack River, and from whence there is a very near and easy Communication with the Abnekais Indians who are settled on the River St. Francois about forty Miles from the River St. Lawrence; and it is certain that the Inhabitants of New Hampshire, in which Province this Cowass is supposed to lye, have been interrupted and impeded by the French Indians from making any Settlement there.

"'That since the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle the French have encreased the number of their Forts in the Country of the Great Lakes and on the Rivers which run into the Mississippi, and are securing a Communication between the Two Colonies of Louisiana and Canada, and at the same time putting themselves into a Capacity of annoying the Southern British Colonies, and preventing any further Settlement of his Majestie's Dominions.

"'That they have been gradually encreasing their Troops in America, transporting them in their Ships of War, which return to France with a bare Complement of Men, leaving the rest in their Colonies; and by this means they are less observed by the Powers of Europe than they would be if Transports, as usual heretofore, were provided for this Purpose.

"'That they have taken Prisoners divers of his Majestie's Subjects trading in the Country of the Iroquois and other Inland Ports, and plundered such Prisoners of several thous^d^ Pounds Sterling, and they are continually exciting the Indians to destroy or make Prisoners the Inhabitants of the Frontiers of the British Colonies, which Prisoners are carried to Canada, and a Price equal to what Slaves are sold for in the Plantations is demanded for their Redemption and Release.

"'That they are continually drawing off the Indians from the British Interest, and have lately persuaded One Half of the Onondago Tribe, with many from the other Nations along with them, to remove to a Place called Osweegachie, on the River Cadaracqui, where they have built them a Church and Fort, and many of the

Senecas, the most numerous Nation, appear to be wavering and rather enclined to the French. And it is a melancholy Consideration that not more than 150 Men of all the several Nations have attended this Treaty, altho' they had Notice that all the Governments would be here by their Commissioners, and that a large Present would be given.

"'That it is the evident Design of the French to surround the British Colonies, to fortify themselves on the Back thereof, to take and keep Possession of the Heads of all the important Rivers, to draw over the Indians to their Interest, and with the Help of such Indians, added to such Forces as are already arrived and may be hereafter sent from Europe, to be in a Capacity of making a general Attack upon the several Governments. And if at the same Time a strong Naval Force be sent from France, there is the utmost Danger that the whole Continent will be subjected to that Crown. And that the Danger of such a naval Force is not merely imaginary may be argued from past Experience; for if it had not been for the most extraordinary Interposition of Heaven, every Sea Port Town on the Continent in the year 1746 might have been ravaged and dedestroyed by the Squadron under the Command of the Duke D'Anville, notwithstanding the then declining State of the French and the very flourishing State of the British Navy, and the further Advantage accruing to the English from the Possession of Cape Breton.

"'That the French find by Experience they are able to make greater and more sure advantages upon their Neigbours in Peace than in War. What they unjustly possessed themselves of after the Peace of Utrecht they now pretend to have a Right to hold by Vertue of the Treaty of Aix-la-Chappelle until the true Boundary between the French and English be settled by Commissaries. But their Conquests made during the War they have been obliged to restore.

"'That the French Affairs relative to this Continent are under one Direction and constantly regarded by the Crown and Ministry, who are not insensible how great a Stride they would make towards an Universal Monarchy if the British Colonies were added to their Dominions, and consequently the whole Trade of North America engrossed by them.

"'That the said Colonies being in a divided disunited State, there has never been any joint Exertion of their Force or Counsels to repel or defeat the Measures of the French, and particular Colonies are unable and unwilling to maintain the Cause of the whole.

"'That there has been a very great Neglect of the Affairs of the Iroquois, or as they are commonly called the Indians of the Six Nations, and their Friendship and Alliance has been improved to private Purposes for the Sake of the Trade with them and the Purchase or Acquisition of their Lands more than to the publick Service.

"'That they are supplied with Rum by the Traders in vast and almost incredible Quantities—the Laws of the Colonies now in Force being insufficient to restrain the Supply, and the Indians of every Nation are frequently drunk and abused in their Trade, and their Affection thereby alienated from the English; they often wound and murder one another in their Liquor, and to avoid Revenge fly to the French; and perhaps more have been lost by these means than by the French Artifices.

"'That Purchases of Lands from the Indians by private Persons for small trifling Considerations have been the Cause of great Uneasiness and Discontents, and if the Indians are not in fact imposed on and injured, yet they are apt to think that they have been; and indeed they appear not fit to be entrusted at large with the Sale of their own Lands, and the Laws of some of the Colonies which make such Sales void unless the Allowance of the Government be first obtained seem to be well founded.

"'That the granting or patenting vast Tracts of Land to private Persons or Companies without Conditions of speedy settlement has tended to prevent the Strengthening the Frontiers of the particular Colony where such Tracts lye and been prejudicial to the Rest.

"'That it seems absolutely necessary that speedy and effectual Measures be taken to secure the Colonies from the Slavery they are threatned with. That any further advance of the French should be prevented, and the Encroachments already made removed; that the Indians in Alliance or Friendship with the English be constantly regarded under some wise Direction or Superintendency. That Endeavours be used for the Recovery of those Indians who are daily gone over to the French and for securing those that remain. That some discreet Person or Persons be appointed to reside constantly with each Nation of Indians, such Persons to have no Concern in Trade, and duly to communicate all Advices to the Superintendants.

"'That the Trade with the said Indians be well regulated and made subservient to the Publick Interest more than to private Gain. That there be Forts built for the Security of each Nation and the better carrying on the Trade with them. That Warlike Vessels be provided sufficient to maintain his Majestie's Right to a free Navigation on the several Lakes.

"'That all future Purchases of Lands from the Indians be void, unless made by the Government where such lands lye and from the Indians in a Body in their Publick Councils. That the Patentees or Possessors of large unsettled Territories be enjoined to cause them to be settled in a reasonable Time on Pain of Forfeiture. That the Complaint of the Indians relative to any Grants or Possessions of their Lands fraudulently obtained be enquired into, and all Injuries redressed. That the Bounds of those Colonies which extend to the South Seas be contracted and limited by the Allegheny or Apalachian Mountains, and that Measures be taken for settling from Time

to Time Colonies of his Majestie's Protestant Subjects Westward of said Mountains in convenient Cantons to be assigned for that Purpose; and, finally, that there be a Union of his Majestie's several Governments on the Continent, that so their Councils, Treasure, and Strength, may be employed in due Proportion against their common Enemy. All which is submitted.'

"Adjourned till Nine o'Clock to-morrow Morning."

—

"At a Meeting in the Court House in Albany, Wednesday, 10th July, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

Joseph Murray and William Smith, Esquires, of the Council of New York.

"All the Commissioners for Massachusets Bay, All from New Hampshire except Mr. Sherburn, All the Commissioners for Connecticut, The Commissioners for Rhode Island, All the Commissioners for Pennsylvania, And all the Commissioners for Maryland.

"Mr. Franklin reported the Draught in a new Form of a Plan of Union agreeable to the Determination of yesterday, which was read Paragraph by Paragraph and debated, and the further Consideration of it deferred to the Afternoon.

"Adjourned to Three of the Clock this Afternoon."

—

"At a Meeting &ca, on Wednesday the Tenth of July, 1754, P. M.

"PRESENT:

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, And All the Commissioners for the respective Governments.

"The Consideration of the Plan of a Union re-assumed, which Plan is as follows, viz':

"'*Plan of a Proposed Union of the several Colonies of Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jerseys, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, for their mutual Defence and Security, and for extending the British Settlements in North America.*

"'That humble Application be made for an Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, by Vertue of which one general Government may be formed in America, including all the said Colonies, within and under which Government each Colony may retain its present Con-

stitution, except in the particulars wherein a Change may be directed by the said Act, as hereafter follows.

Presidt. General & Grand Council. "'That the said general Government be administred by a President General to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies met in their respective Assemblies.

Election of Members. "'That within ——— Months after the passing of such Act, the House of Representatives in the several Assemblies that happened to be sitting within that Time, or that shall be especially for that Purpose convened, may and shall chuse Members for the Grand Council in the following Proportions, that is to say:

"'Massachusetts Bay	7
"'New Hampshire	2
"'Connecticut	5
"'Rhode Island	2
"'New York	4
"'New Jerseys	3
"'Pennsylvania	6
"'Maryland	4
"'Virginia	7
"'North Carolina	4
"'South Carolina	4
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Place of First Meeting. "'Who shall Meet the first Time at the City of Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania, being called by the President General as soon as conveniently may be after his Appointment.

New Election. "'That there shall be a new Election of Members for the Grand Council every Three Years, and on the Death or Resignation of any Member his Place shall be supplied by a new Choice at the next Sitting of the Assembly of the Colony he represented.

Proportion of Members After First Three Years. "'That after the first Three Years, when the Proportion of Money arising out of each Colony to the general Treasury can be known, the Number of Members to be chosen for each Colony shall from Time to Time in all ensuing Elections be regulated by that Proportion [yet so as that the Number to be chosen by any one Province be not more than Seven nor less than two].

Meetings of Grand Council and Call. "'That the Grand Council shall meet once in every Year, and oftner if Occasion require, at such Time and Place as they shall adjourn to at the last preceding Meeting, or as they shall be called to meet at by the President

General on any Emergency, he having first obtained in Writing the Consent of Seven of the Members to such Call and sent due and timely Notice to the Whole.

"'That the Grand Council have Power to chuse their Speaker, and shall neither be dissolved, prorogued, nor continued Sitting longer than Six Weeks at one Time without their own Consent or the Special Command of the Crown. Continuance.

"'That the Members of the Grand Council shall be allowed for their Service Ten Shillings Sterling ℔ Diem during their Sessions and Journey to and from the Place of Meeting, Twenty Miles to be reckoned a Day's Journey. Members' Allowance.

"'That the Assent of the President General be requisite to all Acts of the Grand Council, and that it be his Office and Duty to cause them to be carried into Execution. Assent of Presidt. General and his Duty.

"'That the President General, with the Advice of the Grand Council, hold or direct all Indian Treaties in which the general Interest or Welfare of the Colonies may be concerned, and make Peace or declare War with the Indian Nations, That they make such Laws as they judge necessary for regulating all Indian Trade. Power of Presidt. Genl. & Grand Council; Treaties; Peace & War; Indian Trade.

"'That they make all Purchases from Indians for the Crown of Lands now not within the Bounds of particular Colonies, or that shall not be within their Bounds when some of them are reduced to more convenient Dimensions. Indian Purchases.

"'That they make new Settlements on such Purchases by granting Lands in the King's Name, reserving a Quit Rent to the Crown for the Use of the general Treasury. New Settlements.

"'That they make Laws for regulating and governing such new Settlements till the Crown shall think fit to form them into particular Governments. Laws to Govern them.

"'That they raise and pay Soldiers, and build Forts for the Defence of any of the Colonies, and equip Vessels of Force to guard the Coasts, and protect the Trade on the Ocean, Lakes, or great Rivers. Raise Soldiers & Equip Vessels.

"'But they shall not impress Men in any Colony without the Consent of its Legislature. Not to impress.

"'That for these Purposes they have Power to make Laws and lay and levy such general Duties, Imposts, or Taxes, as to them shall appear most equal and just, considering the Ability and other Circumstances of the Inhabitants in the several Colonies, and such as may be collected with the least Inconvenience to the People, rather discouraging Luxury than loading Industry with unnecessary Burthens. Power to make Laws, lay Duties, &c.

Genl. Treasr. & Particulr. Treasr. "'That they may appoint a general Treasurer and a particular Treasurer in each Government when necessary, and from Time to Time may order the Sums in the Treasuries of each Government into the General Treasury or draw on them for special Payments, as they find most convenient.

Money, how to issue. "'Yet no Money to issue but by joint Orders of the President General and Grand Council, except where Sums have been appropriated to particular Purposes and the President General is previously empower'd by an Act to draw for such Sums.

Accounts. "'That the General Accounts shall be yearly settled and reported to the several Assemblies.

Quorum. "'That a Quorum of the Grand Council, empowered to act with the President General, do consist of Twenty-Five members, among whom there shall be One or More from a Majority of the Colonies.

Laws to be transmitted. "'That the Laws made by them for the Purposes aforesaid shall not be repugnant, but as near as may be agreeable to the Laws of England, and shall be transmitted to the King in Council for Approbation as soon as may be after their passing, and if not disapproved within Three Years after Presentation to remain in Force.

Death of the Prest. Genl. "'That in Case of the Death of the President General, the Speaker of the Grand Council for the Time being shall succeed, and be vested with the same Powers and Authorities, to continue till the King's Pleasure be known.

Officers, how appointed. "'That all military Commission Officers, whether for Land or Sea Service, to act under this general Constitution shall be nominated by the President General, but the Approbation of the Grand Council is to be obtained before they receive their Commissions. And all Civil Officers are to be nominated by the Grand Council, and to receive the President General's Approbation before they officiate.

Vacancies, how supplied. "'But in Case of Vacancy by Death or Removal of any Officer, Civil or Military, under this Constitution, the Governor of the Province in which such Vacancy happens may appoint, till the Pleasure of the President General and Grand Council can be known. That the particular Military as well as Civil Establishments in each Colony remain in their present State, this general Constitution notwithstanding.

Each Colony may defend itself on Emergency. "'And that on sudden Emergencies any Colony may defend itself, and lay the Accounts of Expence thence arisen before the President General and Grand Council, who may allow and order Payment of the same, as far as they judge such Accounts just and reasonable.'

"After Debate on the foregoing Plan,

"'*Resolved*, That the Commissioners from the several Governments be desired to lay the same before their respective Constituents for their Consideration, and that the Secretary to this Board transmit a Copy thereof with this Vote thereon to the Governor of each of the Colonies which have not sent their Commissioners to this Congress.'

"His Honour proposed to the Board, that agreeable to their Resolution of the twenty-fourth of June they would now consider the Expediency of building Forts in the Indian Country. It was determined that considering the present wavering Disposition of the Senecas it was expedient that a Fort should be built in their Country at a Place called Irondiquot, or Tierondequot.

"*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to consider what further Forts may be necessary in the Country of the Six Nations, and that each Colony name a Member for this Committee.

"*Ordered*, That Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters be a Committee to revise the Minutes settled and agreed to by this Board.

"Adjourned till to-morrow morning at Nine o'clock."

—

"At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany, Thursday 11th July, 1754, A. M.

"PRESENT:

"His Honour the Lieutenant Governor and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.

"All the Commissioners from the several Governments, except Wm. Pitkin, Esquire, One of the Commissioners of Connecticut.

"Mr. Wells from the Committee appointed to consider what other Forts may be necessary, reported that they had carefully considered the present State of the Frontiers of these Colonies, and are of Opinion that several other Forts at particular Passes are equally necessary with that proposed at Tierondiquot; that as there is no Probability of their being effected in the present disunited State of the Colonies, and the general Union may make some of them unnecessary, We apprehend some Inconveniences may arise if the Board should go further into the Consideration of that Matter at this Time.

"His Honour put the Question Whether the Board would accept of this Report, and it passed in the affirmative.

"Certain Proposals from William Johnson, Esquire, relative to the Six Nations, and for defeating the Designs of the French; also

certain Considerations offered by Thomas Pownall, Esquire, '*towards a general Plan of the Measures of the English Provinces*,' were read at the Board. It was thereupon voted that Mr. Franklin be desired to give the Thanks of this Board to the said Mr. Johnson and Mr. Pownall, and desire them to suffer Copies of said Papers to be taken by the Commissioners of each Colony for the Consideration of their respective Governments.

"*Ordered*, That all his Majestie's Governments on this Continent may have Liberty from time to time to take Copies of the Proceedings of this Congress or any Parts thereof, paying for the same, and that no other Copies be delivered by the Secretary.

"*Ordered*, That upon the Secretarie's leaving this Province the Records of these Proceedings of the Commissioners of the several Governments be lodged in the Secretarie's Office of the Province of New York.

"Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters reported that they had examined these Minutes of the Proceedings of this Congress and find them right.

"And then his Honour the Lieutenanant Governor of New York and the Commiss^{rs} of the several Governments rose without any further Adjournment.

"A true Copy—Examined by me,

"PETER WRAXALL, Secre^{ty}.

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The Governor informed the Council that having a standing Instruction from the Proprietaries to take all Opportunities of making another Purchase of Lands from the Six Nations, which was every Day become more urgent by the great Numbers of People settling beyond the Blue Hills over Sasquehannah, as all such Settlements were contrary to the Stipulations of this Government with those Indians and might create Differences with them, He had recommended it to Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters to try by all the means in their Power to make a Purchase, and the larger the better; and to facilitate this necessary Work He had by the advice of Mr. Weiser dispatched John Shick Calamy early in the Spring with a Message to the Six Nations informing them of the Necessity of another Purchase by reason of the Encrease of the Inhabitants and their being not to be restrained from making Settlements beyond the present Boundaries, and desiring they would enter into Treaty with Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters who were to be at Albany in the Summer and would have full Powers for that Purpose.

His Honour further said that in Consequence of this Message a Treaty had been held with those Indians and the Report thereof

made to him which he would now communicate to the Council, and accordingly it was read and ordered to be enter'd:

The Report of John Penn and Richard Peters, Esquires, of their Proceedings at Albany in Execution of the Governor's Orders to them to make a Purchase of Lands from the Six Nations for the Use of the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania:

"*To the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and the Three Lower Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware:*

"May it please the Governor:

"The first Indians that made their appearance were from the Heads of Sasquehannah as low down as Oneocquago, and by these who came immediately to visit the Commissioners from Pensylvania, as indeed all the other Indians did. We were informed that a young Man from New England, one Mr. Hawley of Boston, had for some time past lived at Oneocquago with Intent as was said to instruct the Indians in the Principles of the Christian Religion and to settle a Mission there under a Scotch Society; but it was told the Interpretor that he had other Designs in settling there, and that the People of Connecticut made Use of this young Man to pursuade the Indians to sell to them the Sasquehannah Lands; and as he was an Acquaintance of Mr. Ogilvie the Societie's Missionary to the Mohock Indians, We desired him to enquire of this Matter and were afterwards told that he did not concern himself in this Affair.

"Mr. William Alexander of New York was kind enough to tell Us that Mr. Woodbridge, who kept an Indian School at Stockbridge in New England, and Two Connecticut Gentlemen, vizt ———— ———— were in Town with Intent to negotiate a Purchase from the Indians for the Sasquehannah Lands lying within the Latitude of the Connecticut Charter in favour of some private Persons of that Government, and had with them a thousand Pieces of Eight, and were busy conferring with the Indians on this Subject at the House and thro' the means of Mr. Lydius. This Lydius is an Inhabitant of Albany, known to have abjured the Protestant Religion in Canada and to be concerned in a clandestine Trade with the Caghnawaga or French Praying Indians, and suspected to carry on a Secret Correspondence with the Government of Canada, and as Mr. Alexander informed Us might not only have lucrative views in the Management of this Purchase, but a Design to sow Dissention as well between the Indian Nations as between the several Colonies whose Lands lay within the Latitude of the Connecticut Charter; and at the same Time Mr. Alexander kindly offered his Services to Us, telling Us that he was acquainted with the two Connecticut Gentlemen, and believed it might not be amiss for Us and them to come together. This Proposal was readily embraced by Us, and Mr. Alexander was

told that the Proprietaries had good Deeds for all the Sasquehannah Lands, as well as solemn Treaties and Agreements with the Indians, whereby they engaged to sell no Lands within the Bounds of ye Pennsylvania Charter to any but the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, and he was desired to mention this to the Connecticut agents, and that We should be glad to make them sensible of the Goodness of the Title of the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania in order to prevent if possible Differences with the Indians and with one another on the Subject of Lands.

"We were told by Mr. Alexander that our Proposals were communicated and great Professions made by the Connecticut Agents of their Willingness to confer with Us, telling him if our Title was good they would not proceed further in the Purchase; but notwithstanding these Professions it was often told Us by People of Probity in Albany that they were in secret Conferences with the Indians at Lydius', and without letting Us hear any thing further from them the two Gentlemen went out of Town.

"Mr. Woodbridge, who was the Schoolmaster of the Mohiccon Indians, a Nation who had formerly lived at and about Albany, and was their publick Interpreter at the Congress and obliged to stay in Town, was a Witness of every thing that passed between the Commissioners of Pennsylvania and the Indians during their Stay at Albany.

"We arrived at Albany Monday the seventeenth Day of June, and on the nineteenth John Shick Calamy came to Town, with Gachradoda and other Chiefs of the Cayugas and some of the principal Oneidos, and acquainted Mr. Weiser that he had delivered the Governor's Messages to those Two Nations at their respective Castles and found them well enclined, and that Gachradoda in particular was very hearty for the Proprietaries, and would serve them on this Occasion and would confer with Mr. Weiser both as to the Extent and Terms of Sale.

"He said further, that some Tuscororas were come to Town; that this Nation was influenced by the Oneidos, and would entirely govern themselves by their Advice and Example in this Matter.

"The next morning Gachradoda, with some of his own People and the Oneidos and Tuscororas, came to visit the Commissioners of Pennsylvania and went home with Mr. Weiser, who found it necessary to engage Gagradoda by a Reward to serve him as his private Counsellor, and direct him what Measures to take to engage the Indians for a Sale, either of the whole Province or so much of it as to take in the Western Branch of Sasquehannah called in their Language Senaxse.

"Afterwards there arrived a few Senecas and Two Onondagers, who likewise came to visit the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, having been made acquainted by Gagradoda with the Proprietaries'

Proposals and by him brought to Mr. Weiser, to whom they declared their Willingness to let the Proprietaries have a Deed for all the Province or at least up to the Western Branch.

"At this time none of the Chiefs of the Mohocks were come to Town, Hendrick telling the Indians as they passed by the Upper Mohock Castle that they did not know whether they should come at all to the Treaty, or if they did, not till they heard the Treaty was began. This gave the Indians Opportunity of frequently conferring together about a further Sale to Messieurs Penn, and Gagradoda reported to Mr. Weiser that they were in general well disposed, except some of the Oneidos, who were for putting off a final Determination till the Arrival of the Mohocks, who had kept the Commissioners waiting more than a Week, and yet notwithstanding this Affront to the Shame of that Government were invited to come and told they could not treat without them. As soon as they came they were called by the Oneidos to the Consultations about the intended Purchase, and they advised them not to sell the whole or even up to the Western Branch. Gagradoda and Shick Calamy finding that Hendrick would have the Management and thereby could not prevail against them, came and told Mr. Weiser that the Oneidos had insisted on taking Hendrick and the Mohocks into Council to help them to treat with the Propr^s of Pennsylvania, and that Hendrick was thereby got into the Management of it, and had persuaded them not to sell so much as they intended, nor further than the Allegheny Hills, and to keep all the Western Branch of Sasquehannah in their own Hands, and that they could not make Head against him.

"On Saturday the thirtieth of June, the Governor of New York delivered to the Indians the general Speech in the Name of himself and all the Commissioners present. And on the Tuesday following the Indians made their Answer to it, Hendrick, the Mohock Chief, and his Brother Abraham being Speakers. At the Close of their Speeches Hendrick held up Two Belts and acquainted the Governor and Commissioners that the Six Nations had received those Two Belts from the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, with Proposals to treat with them for a large Part of their Country, and having agreed upon an Answer if the Governor and Commissioners pleased they would give it in this publick Congress. Governor Delancey desired to know of the Commissioners of Pennsylvania to what Latitude this new Purchase would extend, and was told that it was intended to take in all the Western Branch, none of which was more North than Latitude forty-one Degrees and thirty minutes. It was likewise mentioned to the Governor that as all Land Treaties were carried on between the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania and Indians in the most open manner, the Proposals of every intended Purchase being first sent by the Proprietaries to the Council at Onondago and Delegates appointed by the whole Body

of Indians to execute the Deed and receive the Consideration Money, it would give the Commissioners of Pennsylvania Pleasure and might be of Use at this time if this Treaty might be made in the publick Congress.

"Governor Delancey then asked the other Commissioners, as this Matter regarded only the Province of Pennsylvania, whether it might not be better transacted between them and the Indians in their Lodgings, and they thinking it might, Hendrick was told this, and the Commissioners of Pennsylvania appointed the Indians to meet them the next day at their Lodgings; and to our great Surprize when the rough Draught of this part of the Minutes was read at the next Meeting of Governor and Commissioners, it was said that this made no Part of the Business of the Congress, and ought not to be put into the Minutes; to which one of the Commissioners of Pennsylvania replied, that whatever came voluntarily from the Indians and was delivered in publick was as much a Part of the Business of the Congress as any other thing mentioned by them. With respect to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania it was indifferent whether any Notice should be taken of it or no, but it appeared something singular that at a time when the Commissioners were brought here at a great Expence to their Governments to settle Differences that arose between New York and the Indians, on Account of fraudulent Proceedings in Land Treaties with the Indians, they should decline accepting the Offer made them by the Indians of having One of those Treaties made in publick, as the Indians might make this Offer on purpose to begin a Precedent, and to shew that they would chuse to treat in the most publick manner on such Occasions for the future. And now that they not only declined this reasonable Offer, but insisted that neither the Offer nor their Refusal should be put upon the Minutes, it could not be thought they were sensible of their having done wrong, and were desirous the Publick should not know that they had done so. Notwithstanding this, it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should take no Notice of what Hendrick had said on this particular Occasion in the Minutes, and the Commissioners of Pennsylvania not thinking it proper to protest did acquiesce."

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"At a Meeting of Seventy of the Six Nations at Mr. James Stevenson's, in Albany, Friday the Fifth Day of July, 1754.

"PRESENT:

"John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, Esquires, Commissioners of Pennsylvania.

"Conrad Weiser, Esquire, Interpreter.

"The Commissioners of Pennsylvania spoke as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'We were glad to hear You mention in the grand Council that

the Six Nations had received several Messages from the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, expressing a Desire to treat with them for a further Purchase of Lands in their Province, and had it been agreeable to the Governor and Commissioners We should have willingly treated with You then. The Governors of Pennsylvania always desire to have their Treaties with the Indians made in the most public manner, that all the World may know what is agreed on between them. But since it has been thought proper that We should treat with You in our Lodgings, We let You know that we have full Power from the Proprietaries to hold such a Treaty with You, and and that agreeable to Message sent to the Six Nations by the Governor We have since our Arrival in this Town ordered it to be proposed to You by the Interpreter that You should make a Deed for all the Lands that have been settled by White People, or are now wanted for Settlements on the West Side of the River Sasquehannah as far Westward as the Province extends, and as far North of the Kittochtinny Hills, the present Boundary between You and the Proprietaries, as You shall think proper to part with, and the larger the Tract the more agreeable to Us, and the larger our Present to You will be; And as You have had this Matter for some Days under your Consideration, and have told Us You were ready to give an Answer, We now wait to hear it.'

"The Indians in our Presence made a Circle at one End of the Room in order to confer among themselves, and they spent more than an hour in Consultation, and were very warm and earnest in their Debates, and seemed to differ much in Opinion. Hendrick spoke a great deal, and turning round observed Mr. Weiser near them and desired him to withdraw, which he did, and after some little time they sent for him and took him into their Council, asked his Opinion on divers Matters, and then returned to their Seats as at first. Hendrick spoke as follows:

"'Brother:

"'We have now the Pleasure of seeing one another together in Albany; Let us talk together freely. We thought the Boundaries had been settled between Us and the White People. We received a Message from You relating to those Lands, which We shall now have some Talk about.

"'We have several times desired the Governor of Pennsylvania to remove his People from our Lands, and We understand he has done his utmost Endeavours for that Purpose except using Force, which We do not desire he should. We are now, therefore, willing to part with them, and expect to be paid for them.

"'Brother Onas:

"'What We are now going to say is a Matter of great Moment, which We desire you to remember as long as the Sun and Moon lasts. We are willing to sell You this large Tract of Land for your

People to live upon, but We desire this may be considered as Part of our Agreement that when We are all dead and gone your Grandchildren may not say to our Grandchildren that your Forefathers sold the Land to our Forefathers, and therefore be gone off them. This is wrong. Let Us, be all as Brethren as well after as before of giving you Deeds for Land. After We have sold our Land We in a little time have nothing to Shew for it; but it is not so with You, Your Grandchildren will get something from it as long as the World stands; our Grandchildren will have no advantage from it; They will say We were Fools for selling so much Land for so small a matter, and curse Us; therefore let it be a Part of the present Agreement that We shall treat one another as Brethren to the latest Generation, even after We shall not have left a Foot of Land.'

"Gave a Belt of Six Rows.

"'Brother:

"'We desire You to give Ear to what We are now going to say. Land is grown very dear You know, and is become very valuable. We desire You would content yourself with what We shall now grant You. We will never part with the Land at Shamokin and Wyomink; our Bones are scattered there, and on this Land there has always been a great Council Fire. We desire You will not take it amiss that we will not part with it, for We reserve it to settle such of our Nations upon as shall come to us from the Ohio, or any others who shall deserve to be in our Alliance. Abundance of Indians are moving up and down, and We shall invite all such to come and live here, that so We may strengthen ourselves.'

"Gave a Belt of Eight Rows.

"'Brother:

"'It is customary upon these Occasions when We sell Land for both Parties to have a Copy of what is transacted. We, therefore, desire You would let Us have one, and We will give it to one of Our young Men who will keep it for Us.

"'Brother:

"'We have heard since We came here that our Brother Onas and our Brother of New England have had some Disputes about the Lands of Sasquehannah—a Dispute of the same kind as that of the Governor of Canada and Assaragoah, but We desire You would not differ with one another about it, for neither shall have it. We will not part with it to neither of You. We will reserve it for our Western Indians to live upon.

"'Brethren:

"'Last Year Col. Johnson was at Onondago. He told Us Brother Onas had a handsome Present for Us. We have not heard of it since. If it be true We desire You would let Us know, and give it to Us now. You see We are a poor People, and some of Us have not so much as a Breech Clout to cover Us.'

"The Commissioners thanked them for the kind Manner in which they had spoken to them, and said they would take it into Consideration and return them an Answer to-morrow morning. Then the Indians were treated with Wine and Punch and dismissed.

"In the afternoon Mr. Weiser informed the Commissioners that high Dissentions arose among the Indians, and desired they would not think of Meeting them in Council nor prepare an Answer to their Speeches nor see their Chiefs till he could find out what would be the Issue of their Consultations; he believed some bad People had poisoned their Sentiments, and supposed it to be Lydius and Mr. Woodbridge, by the means of Hendrick, with whom they were intimate. Mr. Weiser was ordered not to truckle at all nor to go from the Proposals, but to leave the Indians to themselves, and was told it would be better to know what Influence was used and who used it over them, and which were for and which against Us, and with what Views, & that at all Events it would be unbecoming the Character of the Province of Pennsylvania, which had been remarkably kind and just to the Indians, to take any ill Usage from them, and rather not to treat at all than do this. Mr. Weiser concurring in Opinion, the Indians were left to themselves, and in the Evening their Chiefs proposed to the Commissioners by Mr. Weiser to give a Deed for all the Lands to the South of the Western Branch as far as the Allegheny Hills, but no farther. This proposal the Commissioners took unkindly of the Indians, and ordered Mr. Weiser to tell them that it would not be accepted, and that the Commissioners supposed by their bounding their Sale by the Allegheny Hills that they were under Contract with the French for the Ohio Lands, and desired they would explain themselves on this head, for if it was so or that they were any way afraid to alcniate those Lands which were clearly within Mr. Penn's Grant, the Commissioners should desist all further Treaty with them.

"In former Agreements for Lands in Pennsylvania the Mohocks did not share the Consideration Money with the other Nations, as they did not lay claim to any of those Lands, and the Lands now under Consideration did really belong to the Cayugas and Oneidas in Right of the Conquest of the Sasquehannah Indians, and Mr. Weiser knowing this paid no Court to Hendrick, and expressed some Resentment at the Regard shewn to his Opinion by the other Nations, and to let Hendrick see that he would not apply to him for his Interest he delivered the Answer of the Commissioners to him to communicate to the Six Nations in Council, and added that the Commissioners were much displeased and he verily believed would take no further Notice of them, especially as their limiting the Purchase by the Allegheny Mountains made them suspect some underhand Dealings between the Six Nations and the Governor of Canada.

"Mr. Weiser was afterwards told that Hendrick delivered the Commissioners' Answer to the Six Nations in their Council truly

and fully as it was told him, and then in a pathetic Speech, in which he set forth the constant good Usage of the Province of Pennsylvania and their affectionate and generous Usage of the Indians, he advised them to take the Frowns off from the Brow of their Brethren, and to grant them the Lands according to the Western Bounds of the Province, which he had enquired of, and was told by the Interpreter extended beyond the Ohio, and took in the Eastern Part of Lake Erie. And this Proposal of Hendrick's being unanimously agreed to, Mr. Weiser was called into their Council and informed of their Resolution not to suffer the Commissioners to depart in Anger, and then in Conferences the Indians and He settled the Bounds of the Purchase, vizt to extend from the Kittochtinny Hills on Sasquehannah River as far North as a Creek called Kayarondinagh, situate about four or five Miles South of the Mouth of the Western Branch, and from thence to go North-West and by West to the Extent of the Province on the other Side of Ohio, or into Lake Erie, as it should happen. The Indians and Mr. Weiser, on examining Mr. Lewis Evans' Map, which they had all along consulted in their Debates, imagining that the Waters of Juniata, which were all intended to be included within this Purchase, did, some of them, run a good Way to the Northward of the Mouth of Kayarondinagh, agreed upon this Course, as what would clear all the Waters of Juniata, and give the Proprietaries a good Extent on the River Ohio.

"After this, and settling all other Terms Amicably with the Indians, Mr. Weiser by their Order informed the Commissioners that the Indians were ready to meet them and would speak first, whereupon the Commissioners sent for them."

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"At a Meeting of the Indians of the Six Nations at Mr. James Stephenson's in Albany, Saturday the Sixth of July, 1754.

"PRESENT:

"John Penn,
"Richard Peters,
"Isaac Norris,
"Benjamin Franklin,
} Esquires, Commissioners.

"Many Gentlemen, Commissioners for the other Provinces.

"Mr. Thomas Pownall, Brother to John Pownall, one of the Clerks of the Board of Trade, And several of the Inhabitants of Albany.

"Mr. Conrad Weiser, Interpreter.

"Hendrick, Speaker.

"Hendrick spoke as follows:

"'Brother Onas—

"'It has given Us no small concern to see the Frowns setting

on your Brow. Mr. Weiser has assured Us that You have taken much amiss our Proposal to bound the Lands by the Apalacian Mountains, and have put a Construction on this proposed Boundary very unfavourable to Us and our Intentions. You think, as he tells Us, that We have some Design to favour the French claims and are unwilling to convey to You any Lands to the West of those Hills and on the River Ohio, because We either have disposed or intend to dispose of them to Onontio. To shew You that your Displeasure gives Us real Concern, and that We will not suffer it to continue longer, and that your Suspicions are without Foundation, We now tell You that if You consent to make the Creek Kayarondinagh the Boundary of the Deed to be executed by Us on Sasquehannah, the North Line shall go to the North of the West as far as your Province extends, let it reach beyond the Ohio and to Lake Erie wherever it will. This will convince the World and You that we have no Connection with Onontio, since those Lands from this Time will belong by our Title to King George and to Onas. Make out your Deed and be not long about it.

"'As to Wyomink and Shamokin and the Land contiguous thereto on Sasquehannah, We reserve them for our hunting Ground and for the Residence of Such as in this time of War shall remove from among the French and chuse to live there, and We have appointed John Shick Calamy to take care of them. He is our Representative and Agent there, and has our Orders not to suffer either Onas' People nor the New Englanders to settle any of those Lands, and if any shall presume to do it We have directed him to complain to Onas, whether it shall be his own People or from other Provinces, and to insist on their being turned off, and if he shall fail in this Application We will come ourselves and turn them off. No body shall have this Land. Get your Deed ready as fast as You can.'

"The Commissioners expressed their Satisfaction, and having filled up the Blanks left in the Deed for the Boundaries and paid down a thousand Peices of Eight, and promised by an Endorsement on the Deed to give another thousand Peices when the Lands West of the Apalacian Hills should be settled, the Indians executed the following Deed.

"The Indians were told that the Present which Col. Johnson made Mention of to them was made to their poor and distressed Brethren of the Six Nations, Shawonese, and Delawares, and Twightwees, and Owendats, on the Ohio, because they were in want, having been harrassed and abused by the French, for which they gave Thanks.

"'*Deed from the Six Nations to the Proprietaries:*

"'*To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting:*

"'Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blandt, Johannes Satsyhowano, Johannes Kanadakoyon, Abraham Sastaghredohy, Sachems or Chiefs

of the Mohock Nation; Aneeghnaxqua, Taraghorus, Tohaghdaaghquyserry alias Cornelius, Kachneghdackon, Sachems or Chiefs of the Oneido Nation; Otsinughyada, alias Bunt (in behalf of himself and all the Sachems and Chiefs of the Onondago Nation); Scanuraty, Tanaghdorus, Tokaaiyon, Kaghradodon; Sachems or Chiefs of the Cayuga Nation; Kalrickdodon alias Groote Younge, Takeghsatu, Tiyonenhokaraw, Sachems or Chiefs of the Seneca Nation; Suntrughwacken, Sagochsidodagon, Tohashwangarus, Orontakayon, alias John Nixon, Tistsaghton, Sachems or Chiefs of the Tuscarora Nation, for and in Consideration of the Sum of Four Hundred Pounds Currant Money of the Province of New York, the Receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge for and on behalf of themselves and all the Six Nations aforesaid and every of them, have given, granted, bargained, sold, released, and confirmed, And by these Presents *do* and every of them *doth* give, grant, bargain, sell, release, and confirm unto Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania, their Heirs, Successors, and Assigns, All the Lands lying within the said Province of Pennsylvania bounded and limited as follows, namely: Beginning at the Kittochtinny or Blue Hills on the West Bank of Sasquehannah River, and thence by the said River to a mile above the Mouth of a certain Creek called Kayarondinhagh; thence North-West and by West as far as the said Province of Pennsilvania extends to its Western Line or Boundary; thence along the said Western Line to the South Line or Boundary of the said Province; thence by the said South Line or Boundary to the South Side of the said Kittochtinny Hills; thence by the South Side of the said Hills along the said Hills to the Place of Beginning; Together, also, with all the Rivers, Creeks, Islands, Ways, Waters, Water Courses, Woods, Underwoods, Timbers and Trees, Mountains, Hills, Mines, Valleys, Minerals, Quarries, Rights, Privileges, Hereditaments, and Appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining. And all the Right, Title, Interest, Property, Claim, and Demands whatsoever of the said Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blantd, Johannes Satsyhowano, Johannes Kandakoyon, Abraham Sastaghredohy, Aneeghnaxqua, Taraghorus, Tohagdaghquyserry, Kachneghdackon, Otsinughyada, Scanuraty, Tannagdorus, Tokaaiyon, Kaghradodon, Kahickdodon, Takeghsatu, Tiyonenkokaraw, Suntrughwackon, Sagochsidodagon, Tohashwangarus, Orontakayon, Titsaghton, or any of them, or of any Person or Persons of or belonging to the Six Nations of Indians aforesaid, To have and to hold the said Lands, Rivers, Creeks, Waters, Islands, Hereditaments, and Premises hereby granted and released, or mentioned or intended to be hereby granted and released, and every Part and Parcel thereof with their and every of their Appurtenances, and the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors, and Assigns, To the only proper Use and Behoof of the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors, and Assigns forever,

so that neither the said Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blantd, Johannes Satsyhowano, Johannes Kanadakoyon, Abraham Sastugredohy, Aneeghnaxqua, Taraghorus, Tohaghdaghquyserry, Kachneghdackon, Otsinughyada, Scanuraty, Tanuaghdorus, Tokaaiyon, Kaghradodon, Kahickdodon, Takegsata, Tiyonenhokaraw, Suntrughwackon, Sagochsidodagon, Tohashwangarus, Orontakäyon, Titsaghton, nor any others of the said Six Nations, nor their nor any of their Heirs, Successors, and Assigns shall or may hereafter claim, challenge, or demand any Right to the said Lands, Islands, Rivers, Creeks, Waters, Hereditaments, and Premises hereby granted and released, but from the same shall be barred for ever by these Presents: And the said Chiefs do hereby Covenant and declare that the Rights to the said Lands and Premises is solely in them and their Nations, and in no other Nation whatsoever: And it is hereby mutually Covenanted and agreed by and between the said Proprietaries in behalf of themselves, their Successors, and all the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania for ever, of the one Part, and the said Chiefs in behalf of themselves, their Nations, and their Children's Children for ever, of the other Part; that notwithstanding any Sales of Lands which the Indians now make or hereafter shall make to the said Proprietaries or their Successors, there shall ever and mutually be preserved between both the said Parties and their Children and Children's Children to the latest Posterity the same Love, Friendship, and kind Treatment that hath all along subsisted and does now subsist between them. *In Witness whereof* the before-named Sachems or Chiefs, for themselves and on behalf of all the People of the Six Nations aforesaid, have hereunto set their Hands and Seals at the City of Albany, in the Province of New York, the Sixth Day of July, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Four, and in the Twenty-Eighth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign George the Second of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King.

"'Sealed and delivered (the Words [*West and by*] wrote on an Erazure in the Tenth Line, and the Words [*thence along the said Western Line*] interlined between the Tenth and Eleventh Lines, and the Words [*to its*] also wrote on an Erazure in the Tenth Line, being first done) and the whole distinctly read and interpreted to the Indians in the Presence of Us. Also before executing the Words [*a mile above*] between the ninth and Tenth Lines, and the Words [*along the said Hills*] between the tenth and eleventh Lines were interlined at the Instance of the Indians.

THOMAS PENN, [L. S.]
and
RICHARD PENN, [L. S.]
By their Attornies,
JOHN PENN, [L. S.]

"'RICHARD PETERS, [L. S.]

"'ISAAC NORRIS,
"'CONRAD WEISER, Interpreter,
"'SAM[L] WEISER,
"'ROB[T] OSBORNE,
"'W[M] ALEXANDER,
"'W[M] FRANKLIN,
"'J[A] STEVENSON,
"'PETER GRCENENDYCK,
"'THO[S] WILLING,
"'ONONHARIYOH PAULUS,
"'N NICHOLAS PETERS, his Mark,
"'N LOWRENS SONAGARIS, his Mark,
"'J MOSES TEGENONDAKE, his Mark,
"'do CORNELIUS TERAKARU, his Mark,
"'X WILLIAM TARAGHYORAS, his Mark.
"'† ZACHARIAS TANANGHSAGOUGHTA, his Mark,

his
"'KAHICKDODON, -|- als. GROOTE YOUNG, [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'TAKEGHSATU, -|- (Seneca), [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'TIYONEUHOKARAW, ⋈ (Seneca), [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'TANNAGHDORUS, † (Cayugas), [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'TOKAAIYON, -|- (Cayuga), [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'KAGHRADODON, -|- (Cayuga), [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'OTSINUGHYADA, ⋈ als. THE BUNT, [L. S.] In behalf of
Mark.
himself and all the Chiefs of the *Onondagoes*, there being none others present of that Nation.

his
"'SCANURATY, -|- (Cayuga), [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'TOHASHWANGARUS, † (Tuscarora), [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'ORONTAKAYON, Th[e] N als. JOHN NIXON, (Tuscarora), [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'TISTSAGHTON, Th° N (Tuscarora), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'ANEEGHNAXEQUA, † (Oneido), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'TARAGHKORUS, B (Oneido), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'TOHAGHDAGHQUYSERRY, -|- als. CORNELIUS, (Oneido),
Mark. [L. S.]
his
"'KOCHNEGHDACKON, -|- als. CORNELIUS, (Oneido), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'SUNTRUGHWACKON, ⋈ (Tuscorora), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'SAGOCHSIDODAGON, † (Tuscorora), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'HENRY HP PETERS, (Mohawk), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'ABRAHAM A PETERS, (Mohawk), [L. S.]
Mark.
"'BLANT'D, (Mohawk), [L. S.]
his
"'JOHANNES ⋈ SATSYHOWANO, (Mohawk), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'JOHANNES -|- KANADAKOYON, (Mohawk), [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'ABRAHAM ⋈ SASTAGHREDCHY, (Mohawk), [L. S.]
Mark.

"Endorsement on the foregoing deed:

"'Be it Remembered, that altho' the Consideration Money now paid and which is the real Sum agreed for, yet before the Execution of the Deed it was further agreed by Us with the Indians that whenever the Lands over the Apalacian Hills should be settled, the Indians who signed the Deed are to receive a further Sum not exceeding the present Consideration Money.

"'JOHN PENN, [L. S.]
"'RICHARD PETERS, [L. S.]

"'Witnesses present—ISAAC NORRIS, BENJA. FRANKLIN, WM. FRANKLIN, CONRAD WEISER.'

"At a Meeting of the Six Nations on Tuesday the Ninth Day of July, 1754.

"PRESENT:

"John Penn,
"Richard Peters,
"Isaac Norris,
"Benjamin Franklin, } Esquires, Commissioners.

"Chiefs of the Six Nations.

"Conrad Weiser, Interpreter.

"Hendrick the Mohock Chief, Speaker.

"The Indians were yesterday handsomely entertained at the Court House, and made several complimentary Speeches to the Governments of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The Entertainment We were told gave great Offence to the Commissioners of Albany, such a thing having never been done there.

"The Indians were made acquainted that in the Year 1736 the Chiefs of the Six Nations then in this Province had of their own accord, after conveying a large Quantity of Land to the Proprietaries, executed an Instrument wherein they engaged that they would not sell to any Persons but the Proprietaries any Lands within the Limits of their Charter from the King, and as one of the Indians who had executed that Deed was now present, viz: Tahashwangoas, he was desired to tell the Indians the manner of its being executed, and he declared that it was done publickly and of their own voluntary Motion as a Testimony of their great Regard for the Proprietaries, who had at that very Treaty given them a generous Proof of their upright Dealing with the Indians by paying a third time for the Sasquehannah Lands, having bought them of Col. Dungan first and then of the Sasquehannah Indians, and that he saw all the Persons execute it with great Willingness. Then Hendrick and the other Indians present were desired to look at the Names of the Signers, and having done so they acknowledged they were all principal Men among the several Tribes, and being asked to confirm and ratify that Deed and renew their Engagements to the Proprietaries not to sell to other Persons any of their Lands, they one and all declared it to be right and desired that a short Deed might be drawn, which was accordingly done, interpreted and executed, both which follow in these Words:

"'*Deed from the Six Nations to the Proprietors.*

"'We the Chiefs of the Six Nations of Indians, the Onondagoes, Tsanundowans or Sinickas, Cayoogoes, Oneydas, Tuscaroroes (in behalf also of the Canyingoes or Mohacks), who have lately at Philadelphia by our Deed in Writing dated the eleventh Day of this Instant, October, released to John Penn, Thomas Penn, and Richard

Penn, Proprietors of Pennsylvania, and to their Heirs and Successors, all their Right, Claim, and Pretensions whatsoever to all the Lands on both sides the River Sasquehannah from the Mouth thereof as far Northward or up the said River as that Ridge of Hills called the Tyoninhasachta or endless mountains Westward to the Sitting of the Sun, and Eastward to the farthest Springs of the Waters running into the said River, do hereby further declare that our true Intent and meaning by the said Writing was and is to release, and We do hereby more expressly release to the said Proprietors, their Heirs and Successors forever, all our Right, Claim, and Pretensions whatsoever to all and every all the Land lying within the Bounds and Limits of the Government of Pennsylvania, beginning Eastward on the River Delaware, as far Northward as the said Ridge or Chain of endless mountains as they cross the Country of Pennsylvania from the Eastward to the West.

"'And further, as We have made the firmest League of Friendship with our Brethren of Pennsylvania, and are become as one People with them, We do hereby promise and engage for our Children and their Children that neither we nor they nor any in Authority in our Nations will at any Time bargain, sell, Grant, or by any means make over to any Person or Persons whatsoever, whether white men or Indians, other than to the said Proprietors the Children of William Penn, or to Persons by them Authorized and appointed to agree for and receive the same, any Lands within the Limits of the Government of Pennsylvania as 'tis bounded Northward with the Government of New York and Albany. But when we are willing to dispose of any further Rights to Land within the Said Limits of Pennsylvania, We will dispose of them to the said William Penn's Children and to no other Persons whatsoever. In Witness whereof We have in behalf of all our Nations signed this further Writing, being distinctly read and Interpreted to us by our Friend Conrad Weiser the twenty-fifth Day of October, 1736.

"'Witness (an Interlineation of seventeen Words, being first made between the 8th & 9th Lines.)

"'ANYUSSQUASUH, † his Mark.
"'AUYHARUNGQUAS, † his Mark.
"'CANDAGEH, † his Mark.
"'HAWYIENTA, † his Mark.
"'JOHAN SNIDER POOL.
"'JOHAN LENHART FRY.
"'CONRAD WEISER, Interpreter.

his
"'HANUKHUNGO, † [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'HOTQUANTAGECHTY, † [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'GALUSKEROWANO, 2 [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'GECHTACHHERY, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'TAHASHWANGARORIS, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'CANAWATO, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'SAGUCHSONYUNT, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'TYUCHRYGERECHGO, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'SARISTAQUOH, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'SHYKELUNG, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'LACAN † NUNTY, [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'CAXHAAYU, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'TOCANAUNGO, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'OSCOTAX, † [L. S.]
Mark.
his
"'SAWUNTGA, † [L. S.]
Mark.'

"*Endorsement on the foregoing Deed.*

"'Albany ss:

"'*Whereas* the within Deed was the Day of the Date hereof produced to Us the Subscribers, and interpreted to Us by Conrad Weiser in the Indian Language, and the Names and Marks of the Signers of it were then carefully examined and the Execution thereof was attested to Us by Tahashwango as One of the Signers thereof. We, the Subscribers, in Consideration thereof, and of Five Shillings

to Us in Hand paid, do for Ourselves, our Children, and their Children's Children, and in behalf of the Six Nations, confirm, ratify, and hold good the said Deed, and do promise, covenant, and engage to and with Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, the present Proprietors of the Province of Pennsylvania, that neither We nor any by our Authority shall sell, grant, or convey to any other than the said Proprietaries, their Heirs and Assigns, any Lands within the Limits of the said Province. Witness our Hands and Seals this Ninth Day of July, 1754.

"'Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of Us,

"'ISAAC NORRIS,
"'WM. FRANKLIN,
"'CONRAD WEISER,
"'PAULUS ONONHARIYO,
"'SAMUEL WEISER,
"'JA. STEVENSON,

his
"'ANNEGHNAXQUA ⋈ [L. S.]
Mark.

his
"'TOHAGHDAGH ⋈ QUYSERRY, [L. S.]
Mark.

"'KAROCHYAKTATTY, alias NICHOLAS PETERS, [L. S.]
"'ABRAHAM A PETERS, [L. S.]
"'SCARURATY, O [L. S.]
"'BLANTD, [L. S.]
"'HENRY I-P PETERS, [L. S.]
"' ⋈ BUNT, [L. S.]
"'SAGECHSI, ⋈ [L. S.]'

"Then Hendrick declared that as Times were likely to become troublesome, if the Governor wanted to know the true Disposition of the Indians or to consult on Affairs, and would at any time send for him, he would be sure to come with a few of the principal Mohocks and confer with him as Brethren should with one another.

"*Names of the Indians at the Treaty, vizt.:*

"*Mohawks of Onunwara.*

"Tsistarare, Seth,
"Onaagaghte, Johannes,
"Soyoewese, Joseph,
"Oghnawera, Daniel,
"Tehanoghsagoghtha, Zacharias,
"Tiyeragaro, Zacharias,
"Toqueerort, Jacob,
"Sonoharese, Seth,
"Canagrunko, Seth, Junr
"Tayendako,

"*Indians of Oneido.*

"Kanoughrageayate,
"Tanughnaaqua,
"Tahaghtaghqueesere,
"Watsatuhha,
"Keandarundie,
"Niyoherasa.

"*Indians of Oghquary.*

"Tarroghioris, William,
"Kanosteahse, Abraham,
"Teyonogo, Hendrick,

"Teziniaghko, Seth,
"Taggukan, Reneer,
"Kanowageenra, Abraham.

"*Indians of Oghquary.*

"Canadagaye, Johannes,
"Teckyenondackho, Moses,
"Kayeghdorha, Laurus,
"Canaghsadirho, Thomas,
"Aquirantockquaghs, Hendrick,
"Tsiwero, John,
"Tawevagearatt, Dan[l.] Jun[r.]
"Daathieroro, Thomas, Sen[r.]
"Oniengooto, Daniel, Sen[r.]
"Adeko,
"Tekarihhonte,
"Siyaditaghko, Johns,
"Isaack,
"David,
"Onidyeghgory, Nickas.

"*Indians of Ocquaghho.*

"Saghstaghretsy, Abraham,
"Gaweighnoge, Brantd,
"Aquiraeaghse, Lawrence,
"Rahecyoghse, Johannes,
"Alndaraghniro, Peter,
"Soraghkoa, Joseph,
"Towaniawe, Jacob,
"Tehotkaghraantoghho, Peter,
"Skawayendavano, Joseph,
"Orundadeckha, Henry,
"Tooghweankarote, Paulus.

"*Indians of Schoohary.*

"Nahohidaye, Laurus,
"Tehodeghwenziagoghtho, Seth,
"Ziniungino, John,
"Anaghgoonighs, Jacob,
"Kanigeghare,
"Aweahaghse, David,
"Aghsunhaqucks, Hanslbry,
"Keantslaghroot, Jacob,
"Unughrageaghte, Lawrence,
"Kaneya, Joseph,
"Decanajiyasero, Johannes,
"Th'rewaghty, Joseph,
"Karunghiazigoa, Joseph,
"Arighwanientha, Nicholas,
"Orighuryughsto, David.
"Karunghiadeckha, Brantd,
"Canagaradoughqua, Brantd,
"Tiyonidade, David.

"*Young Men.*

"Ohihaweaghte, Joseph,
"Saghsanowane, Peter,
"Okaghsageghte, Jacob,
"Aghseanthearo, Lot,
"Taosaquatho, Arent,
"Skaheghtade, Joseph,
"Adarockquaghs, Adam,
"Gideon,
"Ayenkoony, Peter.

"*Indians of Anowara.*

"Towaraghions, William,
"Onughrageghte, David,
"Sagoderinghtha, Jacob,
"Tekarihogo, Johannes,
"Anatshiacaghse, Nicholas, Jun[r.]
"Oneaagaghte, Jacob,
"Tayayake, Isaac,
"Sakotsa, David,
"Joseph,
"Onohariwe, Paulus,
"Adekodara, Aaron,
"Owadokweany, Nicholas.

"*Indians of Onondago.*

"Ozinoghiato,
"Sorihowans,
"Canatsiagaye,
"Tehatkawadoris.

"*Seneca Indians.*

"Gahikdote, Grote Younge,
"Tageaghsado,
"Sakayenquaraghto,
"Toyenockha,
"Sorkadowane,
"Wahanatseary,
"Onwayoense.

"*Cayuga Indians.*

"Tekaeaye, fine Carse,
"Ihaghradote,
"Skanearade,
"Oyeaghseragearat,
"Oniarageghte, Arent.

"After all was done with the Indians, Mr. Woodbridge, a School-

master as before mentioned of Stockbridge, employed by the Connecticut People to make the Contract with the Indians for the Sasquehannah Lands, came to Mr. Peters and declared that if he could be assured of Mr. Penn's Title to those Lands he would desist treating with the Indians in favor of the Connecticut People; and to satisfy him Mr. Peters shew'd him the several Deeds made to the late and present Proprietors for those Lands, and the general Deed of the Six Nations not to sell but to the Proprietaries any Lands within the Limits of the Royal Grant of the Province, and when he had perused them he declared himself perfectly satisfied, and assured Mr. Peters that those People would give the Proprietaries no further trouble.

"Col. Williams one of the Connecticut Commissioners had likewise the Perusal of the Deeds, and told Mr. Peters that the Proprietaries Title appeared to him to be good, though he was then and is now one of the principal Persons concerned in this dark Affair.

"We have, Sir, given you a full account of all our Transactions in the Discharge of your Orders, and We hope it will meet with your Approbation.

"We are Your Honour's most obedient humble Servants,

"JOHN PENN,
"RICHARD PETERS.

"Philadelphia, 5th August, 1754."

"The Insolence of the French Indians, and the mean Impressions they have received from the French of the English, will appear by the Demand that the Caghnawago Indians had the Assurance to make in the following Letter, for a further Reward for releasing McGuinty and other Indian Traders that they had taken as they were following their Trade and carried prisoners to Montreal, treating them as Slaves and offering them to Sale as if they were Negroes, to the French and under the Sight of the Governor of Canada. Mr. Reyendert Schuyler received the Letter from the Hands of a Cahnawago Indian, and sent it to Mr. Norris, who laid it before the Pennsylvania Commissioners, and they desired the Letter might remain with them in order to be shewn to the Government, and it is ordered to be entered in the Minutes, being as follows:

"'DU SAULT, St. Louis, ce 14 Juin, 1754.

"'Je te prie mon Frere Anagarondon de faire faire Attention a tous nos Messieurs sur ceque Jen'est point ete satisfait du Prisonnier que Je vous ai Remy a Aurange l'armee derniere, mes jeunes Gens medise tous les jours qu'il ne sont pouit Coutant de votre facon dagir, et qu'a lavenir ils n'amenneront plus les Hommes vivan puis qu'on ne leur donne pas seulement de quoy avoir un petit Esclave sauvage, tu scais mon Frere que Je n'ai en que quatre vingt dix Livre de

notre Argent, Je charge mon Jeandre de cette Commission, il t'expliquera mes Sentiments au te remettan ma Lettre, le moin qu'on paye un Prisonnier c'est quatre cent Livre, fait faire attention a ceur qui ont ces sortes d'affaires entre les Manis; sans quoy Je ne repon point des Evenements qui pounoit arriver a lavenir lorsque mes jeunes Gens feron des Prisonniers.

"'ONONRAGUITE,

"'Chef du Sault, St. Louis.'"

The following Letter and Petitions were laid before the Assembly:

"*A Letter to the Governor from Andrew Montour.*

"WINCHESTER, the 21st July, 1754.

"May it please your Honour:

"The Half King and Monekatootha with a Body of the Six Nations from Ohio came down to the back Parts of Virginia, but would not stay in that Government; they are gone to Aucquick to settle, where the other Indians as fast as they can get off from the French are to join them; as there is a large Body of them and no Ground there to hunt to support their Families, they expect their Brothers the Pennsylvanians will provide for their Families as their Men will be engaged in the War. I am,

"Your Honour's most obed^{t} humb. S^{r}

his

"ANDREW ⋈ MONTOUR."

mark.

—

"*Petition of the Inhabitants of Cumberland County to the Governor:*

"*To the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware,*

"*The Address of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the County of Cumberland, humbly Sheweth:*

"That We are now in the most imminent Danger by a powerful Army of cruel, merciless, and inhuman Enemies, by whom our Lives, Liberties, Estates, and all that tends to promote our Welfare, are in the utmost Danger of dreadful Destruction, and this lamentable Truth is most evident from the late Defeat of the Virginia Forces; and now as We are under your Honour's Protection We would beg your immediate Notice—We living upon the Frontiers of the Province and our Enemies so close upon Us—nothing doubting but

these Considerations will affect your Honour, and as You have our Welfare at Heart that You defer nothing that may tend to hasten our Relief. And we have hereby appointed our most trusty Friends Messrs James Burd and Philip Davies our Commissioners to deliver this our Petition to your Honour, and in hopes of your due attention and Regard thereto We are your Honour's devoted Servants; and as in Duty bound shall ever Pray.

"BENJAMIN CHAMBERS,
"ROBERT CHAMBERS,
"JOSEPH ARMSTRONG,
"JOHN SMITH.

"CUMBERLAND, 15 July, 1754."

Signed by several others, being in all Seventy-Five Signers.

—

Petition of the Inhabitants of Donegal, in Lancaster County, to the Governor:

"*To the Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware,*

"*The humble Petition of Us, the Inhabitants of Donegal, humbly sheweth:*

"That your Petitioners being duly sensible of the great Danger that our Province now is in by reason of such a cruel and merciless Enemy as We are now engaged with, We therefore desire to join with our Friends and Neighbors in requesting your Honour to take our distressed Condition into your Consideration, and to put Us in a Condition that We may be able to defend Ourselves, and We on our Part will join with all that We can do for the Safety of the Province; and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will pray.

"We empower our Trusty Friends James Galbraith, Esqr., and Thomas Foster, Esqr., to present this to your Honour in our Behalf.

"WILLIAM SMITH,
"WILLIAM ALLISON,
"JOHN ALLISON,
"BARNEY HUGHES.

"JULY 26th, 1754."

Signed by several Others, being in all Ninety-Eight Signers.

Petition of the Inhabitants of Pextang, Derry, and Hanover Townships, in Lancaster County, to the Governor:

"*To the Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware,*

"*The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Townships of Pextang, Derry, and Hanover, in Lancaster County, humbly sheweth:*

"That your Petitioners being settled on and near the Sasquehannah apprehended themselves in great Danger from the French and French Indians, as it is in their Power several Times in the Year to transport themselves, with Ammunition, Artillery, and every necessary, down the said River; and their Conduct of late to the neighbouring Provinces encreases our Dread of a speedy Visit from them, as We are as near and convenient as the Provinces already attacked, and are less capable of defending Ourselves, as We are unprovided with Arms and Ammunition and unable to purchase them. A great Number are warm and active in those Parts for the Defence of themselves and Country, were they enabled so to do (altho' not such a number as would be able to withstand the Enemy). We your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honour would take our distressed Condition into Consideration and make such Provision timeously for Us as may prevent Ourselves and Families being destroyed and ruined by such a Cruel Enemy, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray. Dated July 22d, 1754.

"THOMAS FORSTER,
"JOHN HARRIS,
"JOHN CARSON,
"JAMES GALBRAITH,"

Signed by several Others, being in all Fifty-seven Signers.

MEMORANDUM.

On the Seventh of August Two Members waited upon the Governor to acquaint him that the House were met and ready to receive any Thing he might have to lay before them, and desired he would be pleased to furnish them with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned. To which the Governor was pleased to say He should be at the Council Chamber by Eleven o'Clock this morning, when he would send a Message to the House to require their Attendance, and that the House should be furnished with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

Albany the 19th June 1754.

Proceedings of the Congress held at Albany by the Honourable James Delancey Esqr. Lieut. Govr. and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York, and the Commissioners of the several Provinces, now met in this City.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 19. of June 1754, A.M.

Present.

The Hon.ble Lieut. Gov.r of New York.

Joseph Murray,
Wm. Johnson,
John Chambers,
Wm. Smith,
Esqrs. of his Majs. Council of the Province.

Samuel Wells,
John Chandler,
Oliver Partridge,
John Worthington
Esqrs. Commissrs. for the Massachusetts Bay.

Theodore Atkinson,
Richard Wibird,
Meshec Weare,
Henry Sherburne Junr.
Esqrs. Commissrs. for his Majs. Province of N. Hampshire.

William Pitkin,
Roger Wolcott,
Elisha Williams,
Esqrs. Comrs. for the Colony of Connecticut

Stephen Hopkins,
Martin Howard Junr.
Esqrs. Comrs. for the Colony of Rh. Island.

John Penn
Richard Peters
Isaac Norris
Benjn. Franklin
Esqrs. Comrs. for the Govt. of Pennsylvania

Benjn. Fisher
Abraham Barnes
Esqrs. Comrs. for the Govt. of Maryland.

Albany June 1754

His

His honour the Lieut. Gov.r of New York having yesterday directed Mr. Banyar Dy. Secy. of the said Province, to wait upon the Comrs. of the several provinces above named, to acquaint them that his honour desired they would meet him in Council in the City Hall of Albany this Morning, in order to produce their Powers, and proceed upon Business.

The said Comrs. being now accordingly met, took their Seats, and produced their respective Commissions, which were read.

His honour then produced a Letter from the Rt hon.ble the Lords of Trade, bearing date the 18. of Sept.r last, out of which a Paragraph was read.

Afterwards were read two Minutes of the Proceedings of the Com.rs of Indian affairs in this City, dated the 15.th and 18.th Instant; Also a Remonstrance from the Oswego Traders to his honour.

It was recommended as the first Step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the Comrs. should Consider of the several Matters they may Judge proper to be proposed to the Indians, at the intended Interview with them, and to prepare the Speech to be made on that Occasion: for which purpose his honour acquainted the Comrs. he would direct the Secy. or Agent for Indian affairs, to attend them with the Records of that Office; and the Commrs. of Indian affairs to meet together as often as there should be Occasion, in order that they might give them all the Information relative to Indian affairs.

At a Meeting at the Court House at Albany
Wednesday afternoon the 19.th of June 1754.

Present

The Council of New York } as particularly named in the Minutes
and all the Commissioners } of this Morning.

The Board proceeded to take into Consideration the Matters recommended by his honour in the Morning. The whole Letter from the Lords of Trade was read, and is as follows viz.t

Whitehall

White Hall Sept. 18. 1753

Sir

A few Days after you sailed from Portsmouth, we received a Letter from Mr. Clinton, inclosing Minutes of the Proceedings between him and a Deputation of the Mohawk Indians, at Fort George in the City of New York in June last, with the Journals of the Assembly then Sitting.

You will without doubt upon your Arrival be fully informed of the particular Circumstances of this Affair; the Resentment expressed by the Indians, and the abrupt and hasty Manner in which they went away; And tho' from the Confidence we have of your Vigilant Attention to whatever may concern your Government we are persuaded you will not have failed to have taken every necessary and prudent Measure to obviate the fatal Consequences which might attend this Affair; yet we think it no less our Duty to embrace the first Opportunity of writing our Sentiments to you upon it, and of pointing out to you what appears to us necessary to be done.

When we consider of how great Consequence the friendship and Alliance of the Six Nations is to all his Majesties Colonies and Plantations in America in General, as well as to New York in particular; When we consider that this Friendship and Alliance is only to be gained & preserved by making presents to them at proper Times, and upon proper Occasions, and by an inviolable observance of all our Engagements with them; And when we recollect the Attempts which have lately been made to withdraw them from the British Interest; we cannot but be greatly concerned and surprized that the province of New York should have been so

inattentive

inattentive to the General Interest of his Majesties Subjects in America, as well as to their own particular Security, As to have given Occasion to the Complaints made by the Indians; But we are still more surprized at the Manner in which those Complaints were received, the Dissatisfactory Answers given to the Indians, and at their being suffered to depart (tho' the Assembly was then Sitting) without any Measures taken to bring them to Temper, or to redress their Complaints.

This being the Light in which we see this Affair, We think it for his Majesties Service that you Should take the very first Opportunity of representing to the Council and Assembly, in the strongest Manner, of how great Importance it is to the province of New York to preserve the friendship and affections of the Indians, and the fatal Consequences which must inevitably follow from a neglect of them, that you should press them to join with and Support you in every Measure you shall find it necessary to pursue in order to fix them in the British Interest, more especially by making proper provision for presents for them, which Joined to the presents allowed by his Majesty, and which you will receive by this Conveyance, may serve to facilitate this great End, and to wipe away all Remembrance of that Neglect the Indians now complain of. As a speedy Interview with the Indians, is, from their present Disposition, become the more necessary, you will no doubt think it ~~necessary~~ proper to advise with the Council as to the Time and place of Meeting the Indians, in which points we trust you will have a due regard to their Conveniency. And as it appears from their Complaints, that Albany, which has been the usual place of Meeting, is obnoxious to them, you will, if you find sufficient Foundation for this Complaint, appoint some other

place

A.

place you shall think most for their Ease and Satisfaction.
And we observe from a Report of the Council and Assembly to
Mr. Clinton, that Onondago is proposed as the most proper place.
We likewise hope that in the Choice of the persons who are
to attend and assist you at this Interview, you will have a
Regard to such as are best acquainted with the Indians and
their Affairs, and not obnoxious to them. And as a great deal
depends upon the Interpreters, we desire you will be particularly
carefull to appoint such as are well acquainted with the Indian
Language, and Men of Ability and Integrity.

We hope that the Threats of the Mohawk Indians, when they
left New York, have not been carried into Execution, but think
it of absolute Necessity in order to obviate any ill Consequences
which might attend those Threats, that some person of Character
and Discretion should be immediately sent among the Indians
to acquaint them of your Arrival, of the Presents his Majesty has
Ordered to be delivered to them, and of your Intention of holding
an Interview with them for burying the Hatchet and renewing
the Covenant Chain; That this person should be carefully instructed
to endeavour to remove any prejudices which the Six Nations
may have imbibed from the Representations of the Mohawks,
to obviate the ill Effects which would attend a general
Discontent amongst them, at so critical a Conjuncture, and to
put them upon their guard against any Attempts which may be
made to withdraw them from his Majesties Interest; And that
nothing may be wanting to convince the Indians of the Sincerity
of your Intentions, you will do well to examine into the
Complaints they have made, of being defrauded of their Lands;
to take all proper and Legal Methods to redress their Complaints,
and

and to gratify them by reasonable purchases, or in such other Manner as you shall find most proper and agreeable to them, for such Lands as have been unwarrantably taken from them, or for such other as they may have a Desire to dispose of; And we recommend it to you to be particularly carefull for the future, that you do not make grants to any persons what soever of Lands purchased by them of the Indians upon their own Accounts: Such practices have been found in a Neighbouring Government to be attended with great Mischief & Inconvenience; But when the Indians are disposed to sell any of their Lands, the purchase ought to be made in his Majestie's Name, and at the publick Charge.

As we find it has been usual upon former Occasions, when an Interview has been held with the Indians, for the other Neighbouring Governments in Alliance with them, to send Commissrs to be joined with those of New York; And as the present wavering Disposition of the Indians, equally affects the other provinces, we have wrote to the Governors of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New-Hampshire, Massachusets Bay, and New Jersey, desiring them to represent to their respective Assemblies the Utility and Necessity of this Measure, and to urge them to make proper provision for it, and therefore it will be necessary that when you have settled the time and place of Meeting, you should give them early Notice of it; And this leads us to recommend one thing more to your Attention, And that is, to take care that all the provinces (if practicable) comprized in one general Treaty, to be made in his Majesties Name; It appearing to us, that the practice of each province making a Separate Treaty for it self, in its own Name, is very

very improper, and may be attended with great Inconvenience to his Majesties Service. So we bid you heartily farewell, and are your very Loving friends, and

humble Servants

Dunk Halifax
J. Greenville
Dupplin

To Sir Danvers Osborn Govr. of New York

Albany June 1754
A true Copy of the Original
Exd. by Gos. Banyar D.S.

And also were read the following papers from the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany, viz.t

Albany the 15. June 1754.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Mr. Lubridge's

Present

Col. Mynd.t Schuyler
Robt. Saunders Esqr. Mayor of the City.
Sybt. Van Shaack Esqr. Recorder.
Capt. Hubert Marshall, Commander of the Fort.
Cornelius Cuyler
John Bleeckman
John Rauslaer
Jacob Coun.t Jon Lych
Peter Winnes,
} Esqrs.
Peter Wraxall Secry

His Honour the Lieut. Govr. the hon.ble James Delancey Esqr. having directed Col. Mynd.t Schuyler to convene the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, that they might consult together if they had any Matters in particular to recommend to his Honour upon the approaching Interview with the Six Nations.

In Consequence hereof the Commissioners are of Opinion that the Six Nations who are here dispers'd and confus'd,

should

should in the most earnest Manner be exhorted to unite and dwell together in their respective Castles, And that the Mohawk Nation should live in one Castle only.

That his Honour apply to the Onondago Indians in particular, to direct and exhort them to live together in one Castle, according to their Antient and prudent Custom, and to cause all their friends and Relations wherever dispersed to join them, particularly those who have separated themselves and live at present at Swagatsie on the South Side of the River St. Lawrence to the Eastward of Cadaraqui, where the French have lately fortified, have a Garrison, and where a French Missionary constantly resides, in order to draw them off from our Alliance. At this Swagatsie the French have lately made a Settlement of Indians belonging to the Six Nations, of which the Greatest part are from Onondago, and Cayuga.

That whereas the French have long been endeavouring to prevail on the Senecas to come and Settle at Irondequat in order to have them nearer to their Settlements, the more easier to effect their Design of debauching them from the British Interest: The Commissioners are of opinion that his Honour should insist on the Senecas, who at present live very remote from one another, to make a General Castle near the Mouth of the Senecas River, where they have already began to build a new Castle. This point has been several times recommended to them by former Govrs. And which they have faithfully promised to do, but have not hitherto effected.

The Commissioners are of opinion, that the most effectual Method to retain and secure the Six Nations to the British

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British Interest, will be to build two forts, one in the Onondago, the other in the Seneca's Country; And that each fort be supplied with a proper Missionary. They are further of opinion; that the carrying and selling Rum in the Castles of the Six Nations is of the most pernicious Consequence to the public Interest of this Colony in particular, and to the British Interest in General. with respect to our Indian Connections.

The Commissioners are also of opinion, that no French Man, upon any pretence whatsoever, should be suffered to reside or trade among the Six Nations, and that the said Six Nations should be directed to send those french men away who now trade or reside amongst them, and to warn them not to return, those french Emissaries having always been of fatal Consequence to the British Interest amongst the six Nations.

A true copy from the Records of Indian Affairs,

Peter Wraxall Secry.

Albany 18 June 1754.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at the House of Robert Luttridge.

Present

Peter Wynne
Sylvanus Van Schaak Recorder
Mynd.t Schuyler
John Bookman
Jacob Cont.e Van Dyck
} Esq.rs

His Honour the Lieut Governor having sent to Coll. Mynd.t Schuyler, to know what he should do with regard to the River Indians at the approaching Interview; Coll.o Schuyler tho't proper to convene the Commiss.rs that they might Answer his Honour upon this point.

They

9

They are of opinion that after the six Nations arrive in Town, it will be time enough to send a Message to the said River Indians.

Whereas diverse complaints have been made to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, that the Indians at Conojoharie Castle, do forcibly take Rum from the Oswego Traders in their Passage by the said Castle; and also that the Onoydo Indians oblige the Traders to let them carry their Goods over the carrying place, and to pay them double, and some times more than double the Customary price, which the Germans are ready and willing to take. It is the Opinion therefore of this Board, that his honour be pleased at the approaching Interview to represent the Injustice of those proceedings to the Six Nations, and that it is a Breach of their promises, so solemnly made, and a violation of their Engagements entered into, & frequently renewed with former Governors.

A true Copy from the Records of Indian Affairs,

Peter Wraxall Secry.

A Remonstrance was then read to the Board, from the Oswego Traders, to his Honour the Lieut. Govr. of New York, which of the following is a Copy.

To his Honr. James DeLancy Esqr. Lieut. Govr. and Commander in Chief of the province of New York &c.

We the Traders (or Handlers) to Oswego, most humbly beg leave to Remonstrate to your Honr. the many Hazards and Difficulties, we are subject to, in our passing thither, from the ill Treatment we meet with from the Indians (i.e.) in passing the Mohawks, and Conojoharie Castles, they Board our Battoes with Axes, knives &c, And by force take what Rum they think proper, whooping and yelping

yelping, as if they gloried in their Depredations, and threatning Murder to any that oppose them; And on our Arrival at the great Carrying place, the Onoyda Indians force our Goods from us at Pleasure to carry over, and not content with making us pay a most exorbitant price for each freight, but rob us of our Rum, Stores, and other Goods, with a great Deal of invective Threatning Language, and are generally so numerous that we are obliged to submit, to those Impositions, or run the Risque of being murdered and robbed of every thing we have. And to put their Schemes the better in Execution, they force away the high Germans, who generally attend with their Horses, that we may be under a necessity of employing them, and paying whatsoever they please to demand.

We therefore humbly pray your honour to take these our most severe Grievances under due Consideration, and fall upon such Methods to redress them, as to you, in your great Wisdom shall seem most expedient.

Accept of our most fervent prayers for your Welfare and prosperity, as we ever remain with all due Deference, Gratitude and Esteem, Sir,

your Honr.s most dutifull
and most humble Servt.s

Oswego June 1. 1754.

To which forty seven several Names were Signed.

The following Gentlemen were appointed a Committee to prepare the Draft of a General Speech to be made by his Honour to the Indians—

Wm. Johnson
Samuel Wells
Theodore Atkinson
Elisha Williams
Martin Howard Junr.
Isaac Norris
Benja. Pasker Junr.

} Esqrs. To whom were delivered the aforesaid papers.

Adjourned till to morrow Morning.

11.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany on Thursday the 20. of June 1754. A.M.

present

His Honour, and the aforesaid Council of New York and several of the Commissioners.

The Committee appointed yesterday to prepare a Draft of a General Speech to be made to the Indians, not being ready to make their Report, Adjourned till to Morrow Morning.

At a Meeting in the Courthouse at Albany on Friday the 21. June 1754. A.M.

present.

His Honour the Lieut. Governor, the Council of New York, aforesaid, all the Commissioners, and Thomas Hutchinson Esq. one of the Commissioners of Massachusets Bay.

It was proposed by Gov.r that to avoid all Disputes about the precedency of the Colonys, they should be named in the Minutes according to their Situation from North to South, which was agreed to.

Peter Wraxall Esq.r was chosen Secretary to this Board.

The Committee delivered in their Draft of the General Speech, which was read thro', and afterwards Paragraph by Paragraph; Objections were made to some parts, the Board not coming to any Conclusion on the same, they adjourned till to Morrow Morning

At a Meeting at the Court house in Albany on Saturday
the 22d June 1754. A.M.
present.

The Council of New York aforesaid, And all the Commissioners, except John Chandler Esq.r one of the Comm.rs for Massachusets Bay.

The Consideration of the Draft of the General Speech was resumed, and one being agreed upon, Mr. Hutchinson, and Mr. Peters were desired to wait upon the Lieut. Governor with the same.

adjourned till Monday Morning.

At a Meeting in the Courthouse at Albany on Monday
the 24. June 1754. A.M.
present.

The Council of New York aforesaid, and all the Commissioners

A Motion was made that the Thanks of this Board be given to the Reverend Mr. Peters one of the Comm.rs for Pennsylvania, for his Sermon preached yesterday, and that he be desired to suffer the same to be printed.

which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters were desired to wait upon his Honour, to request him to Administer an Oath to Mr. Wraxall for the due and faithfull Discharge of his Office of Secretary to this Board.

Adjourned to 3 o'Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting as aforesaid in the afternoon the 24. June 1754. —
present
His Hon.r the Lieut. Gov.r and the Council aforesaid of the Provnce of New York, and all the Commissioners.

Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters reported to the Board that Mr. Wraxall had been Sworn into his Office by his Honour, conformable to their Desire in the Morning.

A Motion

A Motion was made that the Comrs. deliver their Opinion whether an Union of all the Colonies is not at present absolutely necessary for their Security and Defence.

The Question was accordingly put, and it passed in the affirmative unanimously.

His Honour the Lieut. Govr. made a proposal, as a Branch of Indian affairs under the Consideration of this Board, to build two forts in the Indian Country to protect them, their Wives and Children, as the best expedient to secure their fidelity to his Majesty.

Which proposal the Board determined to proceed upon, after they had considered some Method of Effecting the Union between the Colonies.

On a Motion that a Committee be appointed to prepare and receive plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies, and to digest them into one general plan, for the inspection of this Board.

Resolved that each Governmt. chuse one of their own Number, to be of that Committee.

accordingly were appointed

Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. for Massachusets Bay.
Theodore Atkinson Esqr. for New Hampshire.
William Pitkin Esqr. for Connecticut
Stephen Hopkins Esqr. for Rhode Island.
Bonjn. Franklin Esqr. for Pennsylvania.
Benjamin Tasker Esqr. for Maryland.

It was left to his Hon. to appoint one of his Majs. Council, for the Govrnmt. of New York, and he named William Smith Esqr.

adjourned till to Morrow Morning at eleven o'Clock.

at.

14.

At a Meeting in the Courthouse in Albany on Tuesday the 25. June 1754. A. M.

Present.

Jos. Murray
Wm. Johnson } Esqrs. of the Council of New York
& John Chambers

Samuel Wells
John Chandler
Oliver Partridge, } Esqrs. Commiss.rs for Massachusets Bay.
& John Worthington

Richard Wybert
Mosheck Woard } Esqrs. Comrs. for N. Hampshire.
Henry Sherburne

Roger Wolcot
Elisha Williams } Esqrs. Comrs. for Connecticut.

Martin Howard Junr. Esqr. a Comr. for Rhode Island.

John Penn
Isaac Norris } Esqrs. Comrs. for Pennsylvania.

Abraham Barnes Esqr. a Comr. for Maryland.

The Draft of the General Speech not being returned to the Board from His Honour the Lieut. Govr. of New York, adjourned to 5 o'Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting as aforesaid Tuesday the 25. June 1754 P. M. present.

All the Gent. of the Council of New York, and all the Commiss.rs

Mr. Murray delivered to the Board for their Approbation, his Honour's alteration, and additions to the Draft of the Speech presented to his Hon.r by Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Peters, the 22.d instant, which were read to the Board by the Secretary, and the further Consideration thereof was deferred till to Morrow Morning.

Adjourned till eleven o'Clock to Morrow Morning.

15.

At.

At a Meeting in the Courthouse at Albany on Wednesday
26. June 1754. A. M.

present.

Wm. Johnson & John Chambers } Esqrs. of the Council of N. York.

Samuel Wells
John Chandler
Tho.s Hutchinson & Oliver Partridge } Esqrs. Comrs. for Massachusets Bay.

Wm. Pitkin
Roger Wolcot
Elisha Williams } Esqrs. Comrs. for Connecticut.

Martin Howard Junr. Esqr. a Comr. for R. Island.

The Draft of the General Speech to the Six Nations was further debated, but not being fully concluded upon,

The Board adjourned till 10. o'Clock to morrow Morning.

At a Meeting at the Courthouse in Albany on Thursday 27. June 1754. A. M.

present.

The four Gent. of the Council of New York, and all the Comrs.

The Draft of the General Speech was further debated, and not being fully concluded upon, the Board adjourned to 5. o'Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting in the Courthouse at Albany June 27. 1754. Thursday P. M.

present.

The four Gent. of the Council of N. York, and all the Commissrs.

A Motion was made that the Commissions & powers from the several Governments should be made part of the Records of this Congress.

It was unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be prefixed to those Records.

The.

The Draft of the General Speech was settled, read and unanimously approved of, and is as follows.

Brothren,

I have invited you here by the Command of the Great King our common Father, to receive a Present from him, and in his Name to renew the Antient Treaty between this and all His other Governments, and you our Brothren; And I have the pleasure to tell you, that by his Special Order, there are now present, Commiss.rs from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, — Virginia and Carolina likewise desire to be considered as present, although some great Affairs which those Governments are engaged in have prevented their sending Commissioners. — We are glad to see our Brothren here in health, and heartily bid you welcome.

a Belt.

Brothren

We condole your and our loss in the Death of some of your people since the last interview in this place; we wipe away all Tears from your eyes, and take away Sorrow from your hearts, that you may speak freely.

three Strings of Wampom.

Brothren,

We come to strengthen and brighten the Chain of friendship. It gives us great Satisfaction that you have lately added two links to the Chain, the Shamiharadeghroonos, and the Soddirighroonos, as it will always give us pleasure to see your Strength increased. This Chain hath remained firm and unbroken from the Beginning. This Belt will represent to you our Disposition to preserve it strong and bright, so long as the Sun and Moon shall endure. And in the name of the Great King our Father, and in the Behalf of all his Majesty's Colonies, we now solemnly renew, brighten, and strengthen the Antient

antient Covenant Chain, and promise to keep the same inviolable and free from Rust, and we expect the like Confirmation and Assurance on your part.

a Chain Belt.

Brethren

We are informed that you now live dispersed from each other, contrary to the antient and prudent Custom of your fore fathers; And as you are by this Means exposed to the Attempts of your Enemys, we therefore in the most earnest Manner recommend to and expect from you, for your own Safety, to collect yourselves together, and dwell in your National Castles; We desire you, Brethren of the Onondago Nation in particular, to call in your Friends & Relations to join you, especially those of your Nation who now live at Oswegatchie, A brave people separated from each other, may easily fall a Sacrifice, Whereas United they may live secure and uninjured.

a Belt.

Brethren

We have something to say to you of great Importance. The Treaty subsisting between us and you our Brethren, as well as the great Affection we bear towards you, oblige us to mention it.

The French profess to be in perfect friendship with us as well as you, notwithstanding this, they are making continual encroachments upon us both; they have lately done so in the most insulting Manner, both to the Northward and Westward: Your Fathers by their Valour above one hundred years ago, gained a considerable Country, which they afterwards of their own Accord put under the Protection of the King of great Brittain. The French are endeavouring to possess themselves of this whole Country, altho' they have made the most express Treaties with the English to the Contrary.

Brethren

It appears to us, that those Measures of the French, must necessarily soon interrupt and destroy all Trade and Intercourse between the English and the several Indian Nations on the Continent, and will

will block up and obstruct the great Roads which have hitherto lain open, between you and your Allies and friends who live at a Distance.

We want to know whether these things appear to you in the same Light as they do to us, or whether the French taking possession of the Lands in your Country, and building forts between the Lake Erie and River Ohio, be done with your Consent or approbation.

a large Belt.

Brethren

open your Hearts to us, deal with us as Brethren. We are ready to consult with you how to scatter those Clouds that hang over us, this is a Matter of so great Weight, that we think it best to defer mentioning any other Affairs till you have considered this, lest they should take away part of that Attention which is necessary on so extraordinary an Occasion.

a Belt.

adjourned till to Morrow Morning eleven o Clock

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Friday June 28. 1754 A.M.

present

John Chandler
Oliver Partridge
John Worthington
} Esqrs. Comrs. from Massachusetts Bay.

Richard Wibird
Meshec Ware &
Henry Sherburne
} Esqrs. Commissrs. for New Hampshire.

Roger Wolcot
Elisha Williams
} Esqrs. Commissrs. for Connecticut

Martin Howard Junr. Esqr. one of the Comrs. for R. Island.
John Penn Esqr. one of the Comrs. for Pennsylvania.

The Board was adjourned till 5 o Clock this Afternoon.

at.

19

At a Meeting &c on Friday P.M. June 28. 1754.

present,
The four Gent. of the Council of New York.
all the Commiss.rs from Massachussets Bay.
all the Comm.rs from New Hampshire.
all the Com.rs from Connecticut.
Stephen Hopkins Esq.r one of the Com.rs from R. Island.
John Penn and Benj.a Franklin Esq.rs Com.rs from Pennsylvania.
Benj.a Tasker junr. Esq.r one of the Com.rs from Maryland.

The Committee appointed the 24. Instant. to prepare and receive plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies, presented short hints of a Scheme for that purpose, of which Copys were taken by the Com.rs of the respective provinces.

adjourned till Monday Morning 9 o'Clock.

At a Meeting at the Courthouse in Albany on Saturday 29.th June 1754. A.M.

present.
Wm. Smith Esq.r one of the Council of New York
and all the Commiss.rs

His Honor the Lieut.t Gov.r of New York having given Notice to this Board, that he was going to Speak to the Indians, the Board adjourned till five o'Clock this afternoon, and attended his honour whilst he delivered the Speech.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Saturday June 29. 1754. P.M.

Present

Jos. Murray
John Chambers } Esq.rs of the Council of New York
Wm. Smith
all the Com.rs from Massachusets Bay
Theodore Atkinson & Richard Wibird Esq.rs Com.rs for N. Hampshire
all the Com.rs from Connecticut
the Com.rs from R. Island
all the Com.rs from Pennsylvania.
the Com.rs from Maryland.

The Board being informed that a Considerable Number of Indians from Stockbridge

Stockbridge, being of the Nation known by the Name of the River Indians, were in Town; A Motion was made that his Honour the Lieut. Gov.r might be acquainted with the circumstances of said Indians and desired to give Orders for their Support.

The said Motion was agreed to, and Mr. Wells and Mr. Franklin were appointed to wait on his Honour Accordingly.

The Heads of a Scheme for the Union of the Colonys were debated on, but came to no Conclusion.

Adjourned till Monday Morning 9 o'Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Monday July 1.1754. A.M. present.

The Lieut. Gov.r and the four Gentlemen of the Council of N. York.
All the Comm.rs for Massachusets Bay, except John Chandler Esq.r
Theodore Atkinson } Esq.rs Comm.rs for New Hampshire.
Henry Sherburne Junr. }
The Comm.rs for Connecticut.
The Comm.rs for R. Island.
all the Comm.rs for Pennsylvania
The Comm.rs for Maryland.

Mr. Franklin reported to the Board that he had with Mr. Wells (Mr. Wells was not then present) waited on the Lieut. Gov.r and delivered the Message from the Board of Saturday last relating to the River Indians living near Stockbridge, And that his honour was pleased to answer, That he had not sent for those Indians, that he had consulted his Council, and enquired of the Comm.rs of Indian Affairs, and was informed that it had never been usual to afford Subsistance to those Indians at any Treaty in Albany; That it was a great Expence to New York to maintain the other Indians; that those properly belonged to Massachusets Bay Government And it appeared to him that they should be supported by that Government.

Upon a Motion made, the Records of Indian Affairs of the Province of New York, were sent for, and it appeared that the River

Indians have usually been present at the Treatys with the Nations, And that a Speech has always been made to said Indians; And it was moved to the Lieut. Govr. of New York, that would now Speak to them in the name of the Commissioners from several Colonys, and also give Orders for their Support.

His Honour agreed to the proposal of speaking to them, and to give Orders for their Support; but was pleased to say he expected the Comrs. for the several Provinces would contribute to Charge of it.

His Honour delivered to the Board, Copys of two Minutes of Council and are as follows.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the 27. June 1754. P. M.

present The hon.ble James De Lancy Esq.r Lieut. Gov.r &c.

Mr. Murray
Coll. Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpretor, that the Castle, of the Mohawk Indians, now in this City, had some Business before him, and desired to be admitted to an Audience, appointed to attend at four o'Clock this afternoon in Council, and they being accordingly, were introduced with the Interpretor.

The Gov.r told them he was very glad to see them, that he was met in Council, and ready to hear what they had to say —

Upon Canadagaia their Speaker addressing himself to his honour, as follows,

Brother.

We are here this Day by Gods Will, and your honour's Will, to which place you have led us at it were by the Hand. To our old Meeting place, where if we have any Grievances, we may them open. You are lately come to the Administration, we are glad to see you, to lay our Complaints before you.

We

We take it very kind you have given us this opportunity to unfold our Minds, and we will now proceed to declare our Grievances.

Brother

We shall now open our Minds, and we beg you will take time to consider what we shall say, and not give us too hasty an Answer, or in two or three Words, and then turn your Back upon us. As you are a new Govr. we beg you will treat us tenderly, and not as the former Govr. Did, who turned his Back upon us, before we knew he intended to depart; so that we had no opportunity to finish our Business with him. The Reason we desire you would treat us in this tender Manner, is because this is the place where we are to expect a Redress of our Grievances, And we hope all things will be so settled that we may part good friends.

Brother

We told you a little while ago, that we had an Uneasiness on our Minds, and we shall now tell you what it is. It is concerning our Land. We understand that there are writings for all our Lands, so that we shall have none left, but the very Spot we live upon, and hardly that. We have examined amongst the elderly people, who are now present, if they have Sold any of it, who deny that they ever have; And we earnestly desire you will take this into Consideration, which will give us great Satisfaction and convince us that you have a friendship for us. We dont complain of those who have honestly bought the Land they possess, or of those to whom we have given any; but of some who have taken more than we have given them. We find we are very poor. We thought we had yet Land round about us, but it is said there are writings for it all. It is one Condition of the Antient covenant Chain, that if there be any uneasiness on either Side, or any request to be made, that they shall be Considered

with

a Brotherly Regard; And we hope you will fullfill that
tion on your Side, as we shall be always ready to do on ours.
have embraced this Opportunity of unbosoming ourselves to you
Regard to our Castle, And we are well assured that the other
s of the Mohacks have Complaints of the same Nature to make
n they come down. We have now declared our own
names, And the Conajoharys will declare theirs, but that
shall leave to them. By this Belt we desire you to consider
t we have said, and by the same we inform you that the five
ns have something to say to you before you Speak to them.

gave a Belt.

The Gov.r Said

You have now unbosomed yourselves to me,
nd desire I should seriously consider of what you have said,
nd not give you a hasty Answer. I will consider of it seriously,
nd you shall always find me ready to redress any of your
Grievances as far as it may be in my power. But your
Complaints are General, I must therefore desire you to tell me
where those Lands Lye, and the Names of the persons of whom
you complain.

To which their Speaker answered

Brother

We are told a large Tract of Land has been taken up called
adaroseras beginning at the half Moon, and so up along Hudsons River.
e third fall, and thence to the Cachnawaga or Canada Creek, which is
t four or five Miles above the Mohawks; Which upon enquiry
ng our old Men, we cannot find was ever Sold. And as to the particular
ticular persons, many of them live in this Town, but there are Yet
eat a Number we cannot name them.

The Gov.r said, I will send for some of the Patentees, or
the persons claiming that Land, and hear what they have to say, &
Consider

with a Brotherly Regard; And we hope you will fullfill that Condition on your Side, as we shall be always ready to do on ours. We have embraced this Opportunity of unbosoming ourselves to you with Regard to our Castle, And we are well assured that the other Castle of the Mohawks have Complaints of the same Nature to make when they come down. We have now declared our own Grievances, And the Conajoharys will declare theirs, but that we shall leave to them. By this Belt we desire you to consider what we have said, and by the same we inform you that the five Nations have something to say to you before you Speak to them.

gave a Belt.

The Gov.r Said

You have now unbosomed yourselves to me, and desire I would seriously consider of what you have said, and not give you a hasty Answer. I will consider of it seriously, and you shall always find me ready to redress any of your Grievances as far as it may be in my power. But your Complaints are General, I must therefore desire you to tell me where those Lands lye, and the Names of the persons of whom you complain.

To which their Speaker answered

Brother

We are told a large Tract of Land has been taken up called Kayadarosoras beginning at the half Moon, and so up along Hudsons River to the third fall, and thence to the Cachnawaga or Canada Creek, which is about four or five Miles above the Mohawks; Which upon enquiry among our old Men, we cannot find was ever Sold. And as to the particular particular persons, many of them live in this Town, but there are so great a Number we cannot name them.

The Gov.r said, I will send for some of the Patentees, or the persons claiming that Land, and hear what they have to say, & Consider

Consider the Matter, and give you an Answer before you leave this place. It is agreeable to Justice to hear both parties before a Judgement is given; And to Manifest my Friendship for you, I will do you all the Justice in my power.

a true Copy, examined by
G.W. Banyar D.C. Council.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the 28th Day of June 1754.

present The honble. James Delancey Esq. Lieut. Gov. &c.

Mr. Murray
Coll. Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith.

His Honour being informed that the Conajoharas, or the upper Castle of the Mohawks Indians, and several Sachems of each of the other five Nations, attended without and desired to speak to him they were introduced with the Interpreter.

Hendrick their Speaker spoke as follows,

Brother,

We had a Message from you some time ago, to meet you at this place where the fire burns; We of Conajoharа met the Messenger you sent with a Letter, at Coll. Johnsons, and as soon as we received it we came down running, and the Six Nations are now here Compleat.

The Gov. then said, Brethren of the Six Nations you are welcome; I take this Opportunity now you are all together, to condole the Loss in the Death of your Friends and Relations since you last met here, And with this String of Wampom I wipe away your Tears, and take Sorrow from your hearts, that you may open your Minds and speak freely.

a String of Wampom

Hendrick

Houdrick replied

Brother

We thank you for condoling our Loss, and for wiping away our Tears, that we may speak freely, and as we do not doubt but you have lost some of your great Men and friends, we give you this String of Condolence in Return, that it may remove your Sorrow; and that we may both Speak freely.

gave a String.

Then Houdrick, addressing himself to the Six Nations, said, that last Year he attended Coll Johnson to Onondago to do Service to the King and their people; that Coll Johnson told them a new Gov.r was expected soon, and they would then have an opportunity of seeing him at Albany, and laying their Grievances before him; that the new Gov.r arrived soon after, and scarcely had they heard of his Arrival, but they had an Account of his Death, And that now he was glad to see his Honour to whom he would declare his Grievances — and then proceeded,

Brother

We thought you would wonder, why we of Conajoharo staid so long. We shall now give you the Reason. Last Summer we of Conajoharo were down at New York to make our Complaints, and we then thought the Covenant Chain was broken, because we were neglected, And when you neglect Business, the French take Advantage of it, for they are never quiet. It seemed to us that the Governor turned his Back upon the five Nations, as if they were no more: Whereas the French are doing all in their power to draw us over to them.

We told the Gov.r last Summer, we blamed him for the neglect of the five Nations, and at the same time we told him the French were drawing the five Nations away to Ohwogashaa, owing to that Neglect, which might have been prevented if proper Use had been made of that Warning; but now we are afraid it is too late, We remember how it was in former times, when we were a Strong

and

and powerfull people; Coll. Schuyler used frequently to come among us, and by this Means we were kept together.

Brother,

We the Mohawks are in very difficult Circumstances, and are blamed for things, behind our Backs, which we do not deserve. Last Summer when we went up with Coll. Johnson to Onondago, and he made his Speech to the five Nations; the five Nations said they liked the Speech very well, but that the Mohawks had made it. We are looked upon by the other Nations as Coll. Johnsons Councellors, and supposed to hear all News from him, which is not the Case; for Coll Johnson does not receive from, or impart much News to us.

This is our Reason for Staying behind, for if we had come first, the other Nations would have said that we made the Governor's Speech; and therefore, tho' we were resolved to come, we intended the other Nations should go before us, that they might hear the Gov.r Speech, which we could hear afterwards.

There are some of our people who have large open Ears, and talk a little broken English and Dutch, so that they sometimes hear what is said by the Christians Soldiers near them; and by this Means we came to understand that we are looked upon to be a proud Nation, and therefore staid behind. 'Tis true and known we are so, and that we the Mohawks are the Head of all the other Nations. There they are, and they must own it. But it was not out of pride we Canajoharas Staid behind, but for the Reasons we have already given.

His Honour Answer'd.

Brethren of Canajoharas, you have now told me the Reason why you Staid behind, because you would not be blamed by the other Nations as you have been before. I am Satisfied with what you say, that your Staying behind did not proceed from pride.

2/. You

You tell me you have large open Ears, and that some of understand a little of the Language of the Settlers about you; But I must caution you not to hearken to common Reports, neither of us, or of your Brethren of the other Nations. I desire that we may all speak freely, and open our hearts to each other, and so remove any Jealousies from amongst us.

I hope that at another Interview, you will all be more punctual, and keep as near as you can to the Time appointed. You are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me and the Commiss.rs from the other Governm.ts to be Detained so long in this place, at so great a Distance from our Homes.

a True Copy examined by
Gw. Banyar D. Sec. Council.

A Motion was made that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies, which was agreed to, And that the Gentlemen who were appointed to prepare and receive plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies the 24.th ultimo, should be a Committee for this purpose:

The plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated, but the Board came to no Resolve upon it.

adjourned till 9 o Clock to morrow Morning

At a Meeting in the Courthouse at Albany on Tuesday the fourth of July 1754. A.M.

Present
all the Commiss.rs from
Massachusetts Bay
New Hampshire
Connecticut
Rhode Island
Pennsylvania and
Maryland.

After Debates held on the plan of an Union, It was moved &c

the

the Board should proceed to form the plan of an Union of the Colonies to be established by an Act of Parliament.

Whereupon it was moved to put the previous Question, which passed in the negative.

The Question was then put, whether the Board should proceed to form the plan of an Union of the Colonies, to be established by Act of Parliament? which past in the affirmative.

adjourned till 3 o'Clock in the afternoon

At a Meeting as aforesaid on Sunday the second July 1754. P.M.

present.

The Lieut. Govr. and the four Cont. of the Council of New York, and all the Commissioners from the Several Governments above mentioned.

The Answer of the Six Nations to the General Speech made them on Saturday last by his Honour the Lieut. Govr. of N. York in his Majesties Name, and in the presence and behalf of the Several Governments on the Continent therein named, was read, and it as follows,

Abraham, Sachem of the upper Castle of the Mohawks, rose up and said Brethren, you the Govr. of N. York, and the Comrs. of the other Governmts are you ready to hear us.

The Govr. replied they were all ready.

Then Hendrick Brother to the said Abraham, and a Sachem of the said Castle, rose up and Spoke in behalf of the Six Nations, as follows,

Brethren

Just now you told us you were ready to hear us, hearken to me.

Brother Corlear, and Brothers of the other Govts

Saturday last you told us that you came here by order of the Great King our common father, and in his Name to renew the antient Chain of friendship between this and the other

Govts

Gov.ts on the Continent, and us the Six united Nations. And you Said also that there were then present Commiss.rs from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland, And that Virginia and Carolina desired to be considered also as present. We rejoice that by the King's Orders we are all met here this Day, and are glad to see each other face to face, we are very thankfull for the Same, and we look upon the Gov.rs of South Carolina and Virginia as also present.

gave a Belt.

Brethren

We thank you in the most hearty Manner for your Condolance to us, we also condole all your friends and relations who have died since our last Meeting here.

Gave three Strings of Wampom

Brethren (holding the Chain Belt given by his Honour and the several Gov.ts in his hand)

We return you all our gratefull Acknowledgements for renewing and brightening the Covenant Chain. This Chain Belt is of very great Importance to our united Nations, and all our Allies, we will therefore take it to Onondago, where our Council fire always burns, and keep it so securely, that neither Thunder nor Lightning Shall break it. There we will consult over it, and as we have lately added two Links to it, so we will use our Endeavours to add as many more Links more to it as lies in our power. And we hope when we Show you this Belt again, we Shall give you Reason to rejoice at it, by your Seeing the Vacancies in it filled up [referring to his Honour's Explanations of it in the General Speech] In the Mean time we desire that you will Strengthen yourselves, and bring as many into this Covenant Chain as you possibly can. We do now Solemnly renew and brighten the Covenant Chain with our Brethren here present, and all our other absent Brethren on the Continent.

Brethren,

As to the Accounts you have heard of our living

living dispersed from each other; this very true. We have several times endeavoured to draw off those our Brethren who are Settled at Oswegatie; but in vain. for the Govr. of Canada is like a Wicked deluding Spirit. However, as you desire, we shall persist in our endeavours.

You have asked us the Reason of our living in this dispersed Manner. The Reason is, your neglecting us for those three Years past. [then taking a Stick, and throwing it behind his Back] You have thus thrown us behind your Backs, and disregarded us, Whereas, the French are a Subtile and vigilant people, ever using their utmost Endeavours to seduce and bring our people over to them.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren

As to the Encroachments of the French, and what you have said to us on that Article, in Behalf of the King our Father. As those Matters were laid before us as of great Importance, so we have made a Strict enquiry amongst all our people, if any of them have either Sold or given the French leave to build the Forts you mention, and we cannot find that either any Sale has been made, or leave has been given; but the French have gone thither without our Consent or Approbation, nor ever mentioned it to us.

Brethren

The Govr. of Virginia, and the Govr. of Canada are both Quarrelling about Lands which belong to us, and such a Quarrel as this may end in our Destruction. They fight who Shall have the Land. The Govr. of Virginia and Pensylvania have made Paths thro' our Country to trade, and built Houses without acquainting us with it, they should first have asked our Consent to build there, as was done when Oswego was built.

Gave a Belt.

31.

Brethn.

Brethren

It is very true as you told us, that the Clouds hang heavy over us, and it is not very pleasant to look up, But we give you this Belt [giving a Belt] to clear away all Clouds, that we may all live in bright Sunshine, and keep together in Strict Union and friendship, then we shall become strong and nothing can hurt us.

Brethren

This is the Antient place of Treaty, where the fire of Friendship always used to burn, and 'tis now three Years since we have been called to any public Treaty here.

It is true there are Commiss.rs here, but they have never invited us to smoke with them [by which they mean the Comm.rs had never invited them to any Conferences.] But the Indians of Canada come frequently and smoke here, which is for the sake of the Beaver; But we hate them [meaning the french Indians] We have not as yet confirmed the peace with them.

'Tis your fault Brethren, that we are not Strengthened by Conquest, for we would have gone and taken Crown Point, but you hindered us, we had concluded to go, and take it, but we were told it was too late, and that the Ice would not bear us, instead of this you burnt your own Fort at Saraghtoga and run away from it, which was a Shame and a Scandal to you. Look about your Country and see you have no fortifications about you, no not even to this City: 'tis but one Step from Canada hither, and the french may easily come and burn you out of your Doors.

Brethren

You desired us to speak from the Bottom of our Hearts, and we shall do it. Look about you, and see all these Houses full of Beaver, and the Money is all gone to Canada, likewise Powder, Lead, and Guns, which the french now make use of at Ohio. (32)

Brethn

Brethren

The Goods which go from Home to Oswego, go from Home to Ohio, which further enables the French to Carry on their Designs at the Ohio.

Brethren

You were desirous that we should open our Minds and our Hearts to you. Look at the French, they are Men; they are fortifying every where; But we are ashamed to say it, you are all like Women, bare and open, without any Fortifications.

Hero Hendrick ended his Speech, His Brother Abraham then rose up and said,

Brethren,

We would let you know what was our desire three years ago, when Coll. Johnson laid down the Management of Indian Affairs, which gave us great Uneasiness. The Gov.r then told us it was not in his power to continue him, but that he would consult with the Council at New York; that he was going over to England, and promised to recommend, our Desire that Coll Johnson should have the Management of Indian Affairs, to the King, that the new Gov.r might have power to reinstate him. We long waited in Expectation of this being done, but hearing no more of it, we embrace this Opportunity of laying this Belt [and gave a Belt] before all our Brethren here present, and desire them that Coll Johnson may be Reinstated, and have the Management of Indian Affairs; for we all lived happy whilst they were under his Management; for we love him, and he has always been our good and truely friend.

Brethren

I forgot something. We think our Request about Coll Johnson which

which Govr. Hutton promised to carry to the King our father, is drowned in the Sea. The fire here is burnt out; And [turning his face to the New York Comrs. of Indian Affairs at Albany, who were there present] desired them to take notice of what he said.

Which Answer from the Indians was debated Paragraph by Paragraph, And those Gent. who were appointed a Committee to prepare a General Speech the 19th. ultimo, were now appointed to draw up a Reply.

Adjourned till to Morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court house at Albany on Wednesday the 3d July 1754. A.M.

present

John Chambers & Wm. Smith Esqrs. of the Council of New York
Samuel Wells John Chandler and Oliver Partridge Esqrs. Comrs. for Massachusets Bay.
Theodore Atkinson & Richard Wibird Esqrs. Comrs. from N. Hampshire.
The Comrs. from Connecticut
Martin Howard Esqr. a Comr. from R. Island - - -
All the Comrs. from Pennsylvania
Boyd Tasker Junr. Esqr. one of the Comrs. from Maryland

A Draft of the Reply proposed to be made to the Speech of the Six Nations of the first Inst. which the Committee appointed yesterday afternoon had drawn up, was read. Mr. Chambers desired to carry it to his Honour the Lieut. Govr. for his Opinion which was agreed to.

Took their Seats at the Board

His Honour the Lieut. Govr.
Jos. Murray and Wm. Johnson Esqrs. of the Council of New York
Thos. Hutchinson and John Worthington Esqrs. Comrs. for Massachusets Bay

3 A. Mr. Shoe

Moshoc Woaro and Henry Sherburne Esqrs
Comrs for N. Hampshire
Stephen Hopkins, Esqr one of the Comrs for R. Island
Abm Barnes Esqr one of the Comrs from Maryland.

His Honour laid before the Board certain Matters which he proposed to be inserted in the Reply to be made to the Six Nations, which together with the Draft from the Committee was read & debated.

The Comrs from Pennsylvania also laid before the Board an Addition in behalf of their Province, and proposed it to be added to the Reply. The Comrs from Massachusets, New Hampshire, and Connecticut, proposed also some Additions.

Those several Drafts being read and considered, the following Reply to the Six Nations was agreed upon by the Board.

Brethren

It gives us great pleasure to see you so ready to renew and brighten the antient Chain of friendship: We wish the further Extention of it, and shall not fail joining our utmost Endeavours for that purpose.

Brethren

We are sorry that any Neglect has been shown to you, and we hope that nothing of that kind will happen hereafter, or any Misunderstanding arise between you and any of his Majesties Govts. You are our old and Steady friends. We assure you not one thought has ever come into our Minds of rejecting you. Our Hearts have ever been Warm towards you, and we now gladly meet, and open our Hearts to you; the Covenant is renewed, the Chain is Brightned, the fire burns clear, and we hope all things will be pleasant on both Sides for the future.

a Belt.

Brethren

Brethren

We gladly understand that you gave no Countenance to the French who went to Ohio and have entered on your Lands, they are always your and our open and secret Enemies. You did put this Land under the King our Father, He is now taking Care to preserve it for you. for this End, among others, he has directed us to Meet you here; for altho' the Land is under the King's Govt. yet the property or power of Selling it to any of his Majesties Subjects having Authority from him, we always consider as vested in you.

Brethren,

You say that the Govts of Virginia and Canada are fighting about Lands belonging to you, and that the Govts of Virginia and Pennsylvania have opened new Roads and built Houses at Ohio.

What you say is a great Surprize to us. We all know that for five Years past, in the face of all the Six Nations, in open Day Light, the French have been Marching Troops into that Country, which we never did, and do still acknowledge to belong to you, tho' within your Father, the King of Great Britain's Dominions, and under his protection, and the French did publish every where their Designs to build forts and drive away the English Traders, and they did carry them into Execution by seizing the Traders, and did last Year actually build two Forts in that Country. But we never heard notwithstanding these open Hostilities of the French, that ever Virginia or Pennsylvania sent one Soldier, or built one House for their own and your Protection till this present Year.

It is fortunate that M.r Weiser, who transacts the public Business of Virginia and Pennsylvania with your Nation, and is one of your Council, and knows these Matters well, is now present, hear the Answer he gives, and that will set this Matter in a true Light.

M.r Weiser

36.

Mr. Weiser was then to say as follows

Brethren

The Road to Ohio is no new Road, it is an old & frequented Road; The Shawanese and Delawares removed thither above thirty years ago from Pennsylvania, ever since which, that Road has been Travelled by our Traders at their Invitation, and always with safety until within these few years that the French with their usual faithlessness sent Armies there, threatned the Indians, and obstructed our Trade with them. The Gov.r of Virginia observing these Hostilities in time of full peace, sent his Majesty an Account of them; His Majesty was pleased to order his Gov.r to hold an Interview with the Six Nations, to consult Measures with them how to put a Stop to these french proceedings, equally injurious to them, as to his Subjects, And that they might be better known them, it was thought the Interview might best be held at some place near the Country where these hostile proceedings were carried on. His Majt. likewise ordered a present to the Six Nations as a further Token of his Affection for them. According Mr. Weiser in 1750 was sent to Onondago by the Gov.r of Virginia, and invited the Indians to come and treat at Fredricksburgh in that province, and receive the Kings present; but could not prevail. The Gov.r of Virginia finding the French still continuing their Hostilities, sent Commiss.rs in 1751 to the Indians at Ohio, and delivered them the King's present, and by a Belt of Wampom proposed that a Strong House might be built near the Mouth of Mahongahela for their mutual protection. The Indians made Answer that they were well pleased with the [illegible] proposal, and would send that Belt to Onondago, and join one of their own to it. Nothing was heard of this Belt, and the last year the French invaded the Country of Ohio with a Strong hand; whereupon the Indians residing there,

your

your flesh and Blood, sent Repeated Messages to the Govr. of Virginia to send his Young Men to their Assistance. But he being a person of great forethought and prudence, still forbore to do it, and instead thereof sent two Messages by Mr. Andrew Montour to Onondago, for your Advice how to act. It happened that no Council could be called at either Time. The Chiefs of Onondago desired Mr. Montour to tell their Brother the Govr. of Virginia to act cautiously, and let the French Strike the first Blow.

The French then coming nearer and nearer, Jonathan Jefferson (otherwise called the half King) was sent to them by the United Nations at Ohio, together with the Shawanese and Delawares to forewarn them off their Land. in the mean Time other Chiefs of those several Nations came to Virginia and Pennsylvania, and told us what they had agreed upon in Council, viz. that they, the rest of the Chiefs, should come to us, and desire us to call our people from over the Alleghany Hills, to prevent Bloodshed between the English and French. But when those Indians returned, and found that the French paid no Regard to their Warning, but told them positively, that if they opposed their taking possession of that Country, they would cut them off. They sent repeated Messages to the Govrs. of Pennsylvania and Virginia to apprize them of their, the Indians, immediate Danger; telling them they would find nothing but the Ashes of their Houses and their Bones, if they did not forthwith send Warriors, and build them a House to fly to. Having a late Example before their Eyes, in that the French had fallen upon their Brethren the Twightwees on a sudden, and killed them in their Houses, as well as some English who were there trading with them

On this Melancholly News, the Govr. of Virginia, agreeable to the Request of the Indians, sent people to build an House at the Mouth of Mohongihela, but before they had finished it, the French came down the River with a thousand Men, and 18 Cannon, and told the

people

people who were building it, and were but 44 in Number, that they must either fight or give up possession; which last they were obliged to do on Account of the Superior force of the French.

Brethren

This is the Truth, which we have thought proper to relate so particularly, that the prudent and cautious Conduct of Virginia might be known to the Six Nations. As to Pennsylvania they have never sent a Warrior or built a fort at Ohio. This Belt is given to confirm what is said, and that you may remember what has now been related to you

a Belt.

[Here W.m Weiser relation ends.]

Brethren

You tell us we are open and defenceless. We are considering how far it will be necessary to fortify our Frontiers. At the same time we expect you take Care to keep your people from going over to the French. We are able when united with you to resist any force the French and their Allies can bring against us.

[The following paragraphs were to be spoke by the Gov.r of N. York in his own name].

Brethren

You have told me that this is the place of Treaty, that it is now three Years ago since you were asked to smoke a pipe here; that there are Comm.rs, but they have never invited you to smoke with them.

It was their Duty on their Appointment to acquaint you with it and to invite you to smoke with them, and to rekindle the fire which was then almost extinguished, And if they had done it earlier, and before I sent them Directions, it would have been very agreeable to me.

Brethren

You say the Houses here, are full of Beaver; this is a Trading place, and the Merchants have a Right to Traffic for Beaver

(39). or

or other Skins, which they sometimes pay for in Goods, and sometimes in Money; But as to what you Say about Guns and Powder being sold to the French, I have made all the Enquiry I could into this Matter, and am assured you are misinformed, for that neither Guns nor powder are sold by any persons here to the French.

Brethren

You tell me that whilst Coll Johnson had the Manage= =ment of Indian Affairs you all lived happy, that you loved him, and he you, And that he has always been your good and trusty friend. I am very sensible you had good Reason to look upon him in this Light, and fully convinced that he is still your friend; But as this is the place where the Antient fire was kindled, which was nearly burnt out, and as Coll Johnson for some Reasons declined the Management of Indian Affairs, it was thought proper to rekindle the fire here, by appointing Commrs, whom I shall direct to receive & Consult with you upon all Business that may concern our mutual Interests; And I expect that you will for the future, apply to them according to the Custom of your fore fathers, to tell your News, and in return to receive from them what shall be thought necessary to be imparted to you. And I will give them directions that they treat you with the Affection due to you as Brethren. I will make Tryal of them another Year, and if you do not meet with the kind Treatment you have a Right to expect, complain to this Govt. and effectual Measures shall be taken for your Satisfaction.

gave a Belt.

(The following was to be Spoke by Mr. Hollagg, Interpreter from Massachusets Bay.)

Brethren

We have agreed to tell all News and take Council together, We cannot part till we have told you the News from New England, tho' at a Considerable Distance from you. The French have the same bad

40.

bad Designs there, as well as at Ohio. They are very fond to get Kennebeck River. We have News of their beginning a fort at the head of that River, a Priest of theirs has built a House a great way down that River, Gov.r Shirley has raised 800. Men and is gone down to drive them away, and to build an English fort at the Head, or far up the said River Kennebeck. We have News also that the French are building a fort up Connecticut River northward of Coweset. The Gov.r of N. Hampshire has now sent a Company of Men up that River to enquire into that fact, and if true, to drive them immediately off. In another part of the Gov.t of New Hampshire a Number of St. Francis's Indians have lately taken a Family, consisting of a Man and his Wife and three Children, and carried them into Captivity from an Out Settlem.t on Merrimack River; And this contrary to their Solemn Engagement at a Treaty held with them.

We have also News that a Number of Indians have Murdered 21 English Fishermen at Canso, and had carried their Scalps to C. Breton, where they were well received, and it is said, rewarded.

The Board then Adj.d till 10 Morrow Morn.g at 9 o Clock.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany on Thursday July 4. 1754. A.M.

Present

The four Gentlemen of the Council of N. York and all the Comm.rs of the several Gov.ts

The plan for an Union of the Colonys was debated, but nothing was finally determined on.

adjourned to 3 o Clock this afternoon

At a Meeting as above, Thursday the 4. July 1754. P.M.

present, All the Comm.rs for the Several Gov.ts

The plan for an Union was further Considered, but no Resolves made thereon.

The

The Board receiving a Message from his Honr. the Govr. of N. York that the Indians were seated in order to speak to his Honr. and the Comm.rs The Board adjourned to Nine o Clock to Morrows Morning, and waited upon the Govr.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Fryday July the 5. 1754 A.M.

Present

All the Commissrs. for the several Govts

The Rejoinder of the Six Nations, spoke yesterday afternoon was read to the Board, and ordered to be Minuted as follows,

(The following Speech is chiefly a reprimand to the Reply made to the Six Nations, on the 2. Inst.)

Brother of N. York, and Brethren of the several Govts

We on our sides are equally rejoiced as you have expressed yourselves, on the renewing and brightning the Antient Covenant Chain between all his Majesties Govts on the Continent, and us of the Six united Nations.

As to what the Govr. of N. York told us yesterday, relating to the Comrs. of Indian Affairs at Albany, we are much obliged to him for his promise to direct them to take due Notice of us for the future; That he will try them for one year longer; and for giving us leave to acquaint his Govr. if they do not treat us as Brethren.

Brethren, We have told the Govr. of New York how Coll Johnson has behaved to us, and our opinion of him, and the Danger we thought our selves in, by his leaving off the Management of Indian Affairs. If he fails us, we do. However we agree to what the Govr. has proposed to us, he is Master of all, to do what he pleases, and we submit the whole affair to him.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren; We are very thankful to the Being our Father, for ordering

ordering Commrs from so many Govts to meet here, in order to inquire into all Matters relating to us, and to put every thing on a right footing. We rejoice that we have opened our hearts to each other, and we return the Govr and all the Comrs from the several Govts our Thanks for the same.

Brethren Sometime ago the King our Father sent a present to the Govr of Virginia, who sent a Messenger to the Six Nations that we should come down to Virginia and receive it, but we could not come, We have since been informed that the Present was sent to Ohio.

(The Speaker then proceeded to repeat the substance of what was said to them yesterday on the part of Pennsylva by their Interpreter N. Weiser)

We allow that the Road from Pennsylvania to Ohio is no new Road, but has been travelled there 30 years by the Traders. We thank the Govr of Virginia for assisting the Indians at Ohio, who are our Relations and Allies, and we approve of the Govr of Pennsylvania not having got intermeddled in the Affair, he is a wise and prudent Man, and will know his own Time.

We return the Govr of N. York, and all the other Govts our most hearty Thanks (here the Speaker made Bows to his Honour and all the Commissrs) for the promise of protection given us of our Lands, and the Acknowledgement that the right of selling it is in us.

gave a Belt.

Brethren We put you in mind of our former Speech of the defenceless State of your Frontiers, particularly of this City, of Schonactady, and of the Country of the five Nations. You told us yesterday you were consulting about securing both yourselves and us. We beg you will resolve on something speedily; You are not safe from Danger one Day; the French have their hatchet in their Hands, both at Ohio, and in two places in New England. We dont know but this very Night they may attack us.

And

One of the principal Reasons why we desire you will be speedy in these Matters, is, that since Coll. Johnson has been in this City, there has been a French Indian at his house, who took Measure of the Wall Round it, and made very narrow observations on every thing there about.

We think him [Coll. Johnson] in very great Danger, because the French will take more than Ordinary Pains either to kill him, or take him prisoner, on account of his great Interest among us, and being also one of the 5 Nations. [Col. Johnson is one of their Sachems.]

Upon this they gave four Strings of Wampum.

The Board then proceeded to consider the plan for a Union, but did not go thro' with it.

Adjourned to 9 o'Clock to Morrow Morning

At a Meeting held in the Courthouse at Albany on Saturday July 6. 1754. A.M.

present.

All the Comrs. for Massachusetts Bay.
Wm. Pitkin & Roger Wolcot Esqrs. Comrs. for Connecticut.
The Comrs. for Rhode Island.
John Penn
Isaac Norris
Benj.n Franklin
} Esqrs. Comrs. for Pensylvania.
The Comrs. for Maryland.

The Hon.r the Lieut. Gov.r sent to the Board, the Speech he proposes to make to the Five Indians, which the Board agreed to with a small Addition, which was sent in writing to the Gov.r

The Board having been informed by Mr. Colden that the Lieut. Gov.r of N. York, sent for him last Night, and told him his provisions were expended, and he could no longer Maintain the Indians, and he expected the Comrs. would maintain them, And gave him the List of what had been allowed p.r Day to the five Nations, exclusive of the Five Indians.

The

4A.

The Board hereupon Resolved, that they would take the Charge of Supporting the Indians upon themselves.

Moshoe Woard and Henry Sherburne Esqr. Comrs. from N. Hampshire took their Seats.

The Committee appointed the 1st inst. to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies, with relation to the French, delivered the same to the Board, which was read and ordered to lie upon the Table for the Consideration of the Comrs.

The Secretary presented to the Board a Draft of the Speech which his honour proposed to deliver to the Six Nations this afternoon, and also the following Message from his Honour, That the Board would please to send him any Alterations or Additions, which they might think proper to be made to the said Draft; That his honour intended when he made the Speech to the Indians, to read to them the Act of the General Assembly of New York concerning the Sale of Rum to the Indians, and that he also recommended the request of the upper Castle of the Mohawks for a Church, to the Board. The Secretary also brought back his honr. Approbation to the Small Addition proposed to be made to the Speech intended to be made to the River Indians. which Speech is as follows.

Brethren I have sent for you here, to give you fresh Assurances of the Great King your father's protection, and that we might with the Council whom you now see assembled here from the Governments of Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, Strengthen and brighten the Covenant Chain.

We are glad to see you at this your old meeting place, and we do now in his Majesties Name, and in behalf of all his Colonies, renew the Antient Covenant Chain of friendship, that it may be stronger and brighter than ever, which we recommend to you, to preserve clean and free from Rust, by a peaceable and affectionate Behaviour to

all

all your Brethren, and especially to those who live near you, and you may then with Confidence, rely on the favour of this, and all his Majesties Govts

As a proof of the Kings tender Regard for you I shall deliver you a present he has sent you, consisting of such Necessarys as you may want, and the Comrs from each of the Govts have contributed towards a present for you also; All which presents shall be here ready for you in the Afternoon.

Elisha Williams Esqr Comr for Connect. took his Seat.

On a Motion made and seconded that a Message be sent to his Honour the Lieut. Govr of N. York, relating to the Answer he proposes to make to the Six Nations; Mr Hutchinson and Mr Franklin were appointed to prepare the same.

Theodore Atkinson and Richard Wibird Esqrs Comrs for New Hampshire took their Seats. as did also Richd Peters Esq. one of the Comrs for Pennsylvania.

Mr Hutchinson reported the following Message

May it please your honour

The Comrs from the Several Govts now met at Albany observe that in the Speech your honour proposes to make this Day to the Indians of the 6 Nations, and which you have caused to be communicated to the Board by their Secretary, no Notice is taken of the Complaints of the said Indians relating to their Lands. This Complaint seems by the Letter from the Right Hon. the Lords of Trade, which your Hon. has laid before the Board, to have been the principal Occasion of this unusual and expensive Meeting of Comrs from so many Colonys, and it appears by the last Answer from the Indians that their Uneasiness still remains.

The Comrs therefore think it incumbent on them to pray your Hon. that they may be acquainted with the particulars of the Compt. and that they may have an Opportunity of consulting with your

Honour

Honour, proper Measures for removing the Causes thereof.

Which was read and unanimously agreed to, and it was thereupon ordered that Mr. Wells and Mr. Pitkin wait upon his Honour the Lieut. Govr. with the same.

adjourned to three o Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting &c on Saturday the 6. July 1754 P.M.

Present,
All the Commrs. from Massachusets Bay,
All the Commrs. from New Hampshire,
The Commrs. from Connecticut,
Stephen Hopkins Esqr. Commr. from R. Island.

Mr. Wells reported to the Board that he and Mr. Pitkin had delivered the Message they were appointed in the Morning to deliver to his Honr. the Lieut. Govr. of N. York.

The four Gent. of the Council of N. York,
Martin Howard Esqr.
Benj. Franklin & Abrahm Barnes Esqrs took their Seats.

Mr. Murray delivered to the Board his Honour the Lieut. Govrs Answer in writing to the Message delivered to his honr. in the Morng. by Mr. Wells and Mr. Pitkin, which was read and is as follows,

Gentlemen

In Answer to your Message to me of this Day, I acquaint you that Yesterday I had the Sachems of the Onajohara Castle before me in Council, to conclude the Matter in Controversie between some Germans and one Teady Magin, relating to an Indian Purchase that had occasioned the greatest Uneasiness among the Indians of that Castle; which after two Meetings was then formally and finally settled to the Satisfaction of all parties.

I then took Occasion to observe to them that at their Meeting on the 2d Inst. I desired them to open their Minds fully, and that I expected they would then have laid all their Complaints before me:

That

That as to what they had mentioned in their public Speech on the 4th instant, I was not acquainted with any other particular Complaints until I came to this place, being abroad on the Circuit at the time they made 'em at N. York; and then I promised as soon as I returned thither, I would look into them, and do all the Justice that lay in my power; with which they declared themselves well Satisfied, and thanked me.

Jr. Delancy.

Albany 6. July 1754.

The Board being obliged to attend at the Interview of the Schaticoke and River Indians,

adjourned to Monday Morning 9. o Clock.

At a Meeting held at Albany on Monday the 8th Inst. 1754. A. M.

present

Wm. Johnson & Wm. Smith Esqrs. two of the Council of N. York,

and all the Comrs.

The Speech proposed by his honr. to be made to the Indians of the Six Nations having been again read to the Board, & the Compt. of the Indians relative to their Lands, coming under their Consideration, the Board were acquainted that Mr. Wm. Livingston and Mr. Wm. Alexander, two of the Heirs or Devisees of Philip Livingston Esqr. Decd. the proprietor or Patentee of the Lands on which Cona=johara Castle stands, had declared their readiness to give up all Right to said Patents, or such Parts as shall be thought necessary. It was ordered that said Mr. Livingston and Mr. Alexander be informed that the Board desired to speak with them.

Mr. Livingston and Mr. Alexander being present, informed the Board that their father was one among other Patentees of the Lands mentioned, that they were interested 1/8 each of them in their Father's Right. The Circumstances of his Title they had made no Enquiry into, but were ready to make any Resignation which either Justice or the public Service required.

The

48.

The Board being informed that his Honour the Lieut. Govr. desired a Gentleman from each Govt. might be appointed to be present with him in making Enquiry of the Indians of the Conajoharg Castle how far they were Satisfied respecting their Land;

Mr. Colors and Mr. Howard were appointed to wait on the Govr. and acquaint him that the Board agreed to the proposal.

Accordingly Mr. Stubbinson was appointed for Massachusets Bay, Coll. Atkinson for N. Hampshire, Coll. Wolcot for Connect. Mr. Hopkins for R. Island, Mr. Norris for Pennsylvania, Coll. Tasker for Maryland.

Jas. Murray and Jno. Chambers Esqrs. of the Council of N. York took their Seats.

His Honour's Draft of the Speech he proposes to make to the Six Nations, which was delivered to the Board the 6th. inst. was read, and after Debates had thereon relative to the Sale of Rum amongst them, and the Conajoharas Desire about a Church, some Alterations and Additions to it were agreed to be proposed to his Honr.

The Representation of the present State of the Colonys was again read through, but no final Resolution thereon agreed to.

The Answers of the Schaghticook and River Indians to the Speech made them the 6th. inst. were read, and are as follows,

The Speech of the Schaaghticook Indians.

Father

We are glad that the Govr. sees his Children now before him, we are small in Number, but next time we hope we shall be more. Your Honr. may see that we are but young & unexperienced, our antient people being almost all Dead, so that we have no body to give us any Advice, but we will do as our fathers have done before us.

gave a Belt.

Father

This Belt came from our forefathers, and we will be

true

true and faithfull to the King, as they were.

gave a Belt.

They gave also to the Gov.r a small Bundle of Skins, and desired that the Skin of Rum might be stopped at Schaahticook, and that if they want it, they will come and buy it at Albany.

The Speech of the River Indians.

Fathers

We are greatly rejoiced to see you all here. It is by the Will of Heaven that we are met here, and we thank you for this Opportunity of seeing you altogether, as its a long while since we have had such a one.

Fathers, who set present here, We will just give you a short relation of the long friendship which has subsisted between the White people of this Country, and us. Our fore fathers had a Castle on this River: as one of 'em walked out he saw something on the River but was at a loss to know what it was, he took it at first for a great Fish; he ran into the Castle and gave Notice to the other Indians; two of our fore fathers went to see what it was, and found it a Vessel with men in it, they immediately joined hands, with the people in the Vessel, and became friends, the White people told 'em that they should not come any further up the River at that time, and said to 'em that they would return back from whence they came, and come again in a years time. Acording to their promise they returned back in a years time, and came as far up the River as where the Old fort stood. our fore fathers invited 'em ashoar, and said to 'em, here we will give you a place to build you a Town, it shall be from this place up to such a Stream (meaning where the Patroon's Mill now stands) and from the River back up to the Hill.

Our fore fathers told 'em, tho' they were now a small people, they

they would in time multiply and fill up the Land they had given them. after they were on shore sometime, some other Indians who had not seen 'em before, looked fiercely at 'em, and our forefathers observing it, and seing the white people so few in Number, lest they should be destroyed, took and sheltered 'em under their Arms. But it turned out that those Indians did not desire to destroy 'em, but wished also to have the said White people for their friends. at this time which we have now spoken of, the white people were ~~not~~ small, but we were very numerous and strong, we despised 'em in that low State; but now the Case is altered: You are numerous and strong, we are few and weak. therefore we expect that you will? act by us in these circumstances, as we did by you in those we have just now related. We view you now as a very large Tree, which has taken deep Root in the Ground, whose Branches are spread very wide. We Stand by the Body of this Tree, and we look round to see if there be any who endeavour to hurt it, and if it shou'd so happen that any are powerfull enough to destroy it, we are ready to fall with it.

gave a Belt.

Fathers

You see how early we made friendship with you, we tied each other in a very strong Chain, that Chain has not yet been broken, we us'd clean and rub that Chain to make it brighter and Stronger, and we determine on our Parts that it never shall be broken, and we hope you will take Care that neither you nor any one else shall break it, and we are greatly rejoiced that peace and friendship have so long subsisted between us.

gave a Belt.

Fathers

Don't think Strange of what we are about to say. We wou'd say something respecting our Lands. When the white people purchased from time to time of us, they said they only

51. wanted

wanted to purchase the Low Lands, they told us the Hilly Land was good for nothing, and that it was full of Woods and Stones; But now we see people living all about the Hills and Woods, altho' they have not purchased the Lands. When we enquire of the people who live on the Lands, what Right they have to 'em, they reply to us that we are not to be regarded, and that those Lands belong to the King. But we were the first possessors of 'em, and when the King has paid us for 'em, then they may say they are his. Hunting now is grown very scarce, and we are not like to get our living that Way. therefore we hope our Fathers will take Care that we are paid for our Lands that we may live.

gave a Belt.

made a present of a Bundle of Skins.

The Board then Adjourned to 3 o Clock this Afternoon.

At a Meeting &c. Monday 8. July 1754. P. M.

present

all the Com.rs except W.m Coll. Allison, M.r Norris, and the Com.rs of Maryland.

The Board proceeded in their Consideration upon the plan for a Union, but did not go thro' with it.

The Speech proposed to be made to the Six Nations, was returned to the Board from his Hon.r with the alterations and additions proposed by the Board in the Morning.

Ordered

That the said Speech lie upon the Table till some further Matters relating to it be agreed on by the Board.

The Committee appointed in the Morning to be present with the Gov.r of N. York at a Conference with the Onajohara Indians, returned from the same, and reported as follows.

That his Hon.r enquired of the Indians whether they had not expressed themselves satisfied with the Measures he had taken

concerning

concerning their Lands, and the promise that he would enquire further into the affair when he came to N. York. To which they replied that they were sensible his Honr. was at Albany when they made their Complaint at N. York last year; that he had told 'em he had now lost the papers there, but would enquire into it when he came there, that they were willing to try one year more, and if matters were not made up by the Govr., whom they looked on as their elder Brother, but neglected as they used to be, they would send to all their other Brothers (pointing to the Comrs.) for their assistance; And that they agreed to this the Rather, as there were French Indians in Town, and they did not think it convenient to have any Differences before 'em. Upon which his Honr. again assured 'em he would enquire into their Affairs, in order to their being satisfied, especially as he had the King's Orders for it.

The Board receiving a Message from his Honr. that the Sachems of the Six Nations were attending to be spoke to.

The Board adjourned to 9 o Clock to Morrow Morning, and waited upon the Govr.

At a Meeting in the Courthouse at Albany on Thursday the 9th. of July 1754 A. M.

present

Jos. Murray and Wm. Smith Esqrs. of the Council of New York } all the Comrs. except Col. Partridge and Mr. Hopkins.

The Public Conference between his Honr. the Lieut. Govr. of New York, and the Comrs. from the several Govts. with the Six Nations yesterday Evening, was read, and ordered to be entered as follows,

Brethren You told me your Hearts were deeply concerned at the bad effects which may arise from selling Rum in your respective Countries. I will give Orders that the Laws already made for preventing the Sale of this Liquor among you shall be strictly put in Execution. And whatever further provision in the Law is necessary, I will endeavour it shall be made; That you may see I take Care of your healths, and your peace, which are hurt

 and

and disturbed by the Use of this Liquor among you of the five upper Nations. And as to what you of the Mohawks have said, I shall consider how far it may be necessary to restrain the people living round you from selling Rum; And if I can think of a proper Remedy for this Evil, I will endeavour to apply it.

Brethren of the upper Castle of the Mohawks

I am well pleased with your Request to have a Church built amongst you, and I shall do every thing in my power to promote so good a Work. And it is very agreeable to me and the Comr.s from all the Gov.ts present to find a Disposition in you to receive the Christian Religion.

Brethren

As I gave you Satisfaction with Respect to one of your Compl.ts about your Lands, which lay heavy on your Minds, and have assured you that I shall endeavour to do you Justice as to the Rest when I come to N. York, I shall not say any thing further to you on that Affair now.

The Gov.r being informed by the Interpreter that they chose to have the powder divided on the Hill, told them it was in his opinion better for them to have it sent to Schonactady. Hendrick Answered for them, Just as his hon.r pleased: who told them he would order the Powder to Schonactady, and the Rum above the Settlements, with which they appeared themselves satisfied.

His Honour then said,

I have now done speaking to you, but before I cover up the fire, I must recommend it to you to behave quietly and peaceably to all your Brethren, and their Cattle in your return Home.

Hendrick then replied

Your honour tells us you now covered up the fire, and we are highly pleased that all things have been so amicably

54.

amicably settled, and hope that all that has passed between us may be strictly observed on both sides.

Brethren of the Several Govts

We hope that you will not fail in the Covenant Chain wherewith we have mutually bound ourselves, and now so solemnly renewed and strengthened. If we don't hold fast by this Chain of friendship, our Enemies will laugh us to scorn.

Brethren

We wish you would all contribute to provide some Provision for us in our Way Home, which will effectually prevent our People from killing the Inhabitants Cattle. And we desire you will provide some Waggons for us to go to Schonactady. We think this Expence will fall too heavy upon one Province, as we have the Presents from all to carry up. We beg we may all take care of the Tree of friendship, and preserve it by our mutual Attention from any Injuries. We will take Care of it on our Sides, and we hope our Brethren will do so on theirs. We wish this Tree of friendship may grow up to a great height, and then we shall be a powerful people.

Brethren

We the united Nations shall rejoice in the increase of our Strength, so that all other Nations may stand in awe of us.

Brethren

I will just tell you what a People we were formerly

formerly, If any of our Enemies rose against us, we had no Occasion to lift up our whole hand against them, for our little finger was Sufficient. And as we have now made so strong a Confederacy, if we are truely earnest therein, we may retrieve the Antient Glory of the five Nations.

Brethren

We have now done, But one Word we must add. The Interpreter, if the French continue their Hostilities, will want Assistance, three or four to be Joined with them. but this Matter we submit to the Gov.r We have now fully finished all that we have to say.

The Gov.r replied.

Brethren

It gives me, and all the Commissioners here present, great Satisfaction, that this Interview has concluded so amicably on all Sides. I have ordered thirty Waggons to be provided for your Service, which I expect here to Morrow Morning. And I have ordered provisions for you to serve you on your Journey.

I hope that by this present Union we shall grow up to a great Height and be as powerful and famous as you were of old.

As to the Interpreter, when the Circumstances of this Country require it he Shall have the necessary

assistance

assistance; And I assure you in the Name of this Govt., and all the Govts here present, that we shall endeavour to extend and preserve the Covenant Chain by every possible Method in our power.

They asked his Honr. When himself and the Comrs proposed to return home? His Honr. answer'd that they had some Matters yet to settle about the Union, and then they should set out for their respective Habitations.

The Govr. then in his own Name and that of the Comrs. wished them a good Journey, and they returned the Compliment. And then the Conferences broke up.

The Answers of the Lieut. Govr. and the Comrs. to the Schaakticook and River Indians, was next read and Ordered to be Entered as follows,

The answer to the Schaakticook Indians

Children,

We condole with you in the Loss of your old and experienced people.

a String.

Children, I, and the Comrs. from the other Govts here present, are glad to see, that altho' you are young and unexperienced, yet you are willing to take advice, and are determined to remain faithful to the King, and friendly to all his Subjects.

a Belt.

answer to the River Indians.

Children

We are glad to find that you treasure up in your minds Memorys the mutual Instances of friendship between our Ancestors and yours. the Remembrance of that friendship will descend to our Posterity, and we desire you to hand it down to yours; And altho there is a great Alteration in Circumstances since our Predecessors first became among you; yet we have not less affection for you than they had.

a Belt.

Children

Children

your Brightening and strengthening the Covenant Chain is well pleasing to me and the Com.rs We acknowledge you have never broken it. We have likewise preserved it entire, and are determined to continue to do so.

a Belt.

Children

You complain that some of the people of this province are in possession of your Lands, which you never sold. This is a Complaint which affects persons who live at a Distance, I have ordered notice to be given them of it, and if upon Enquiry into the affair it shall appear that you have been injured, I will endeavour to get you redressed. But I shall observe to you that the Constant Method of granting Lands in this Province is, and has been by License from the Gov.r to purchase from the Indians, and upon the Purchase being returned before him in Council; he, with their Advice, orders a Patent; and that most of those Lands concerning which you Complain were patented when you were Children, some before any of you were born.

Ordered that the following Minutes be made, that the last paragraph of the foregoing Answer to the River Indians about the Manner of patenting Lands in this Province, beginning with the words — I shall observe was an addition made by his Honour to the Draft sent him yesterday by this Board.

Col.o Johnson, M.r Chambers, Col.o Partridge and M.r Hopkins took their Seats.

The Plan of the Union was debated and agreed upon, and M.r Franklin was desired to make a Draft of it as now concluded upon,

Adjourned till five o Clock this Evening.

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At Albany &c on Tuesday the 9th of July 1754. P.M.

present.

His Honble the Lieut. Gov. and the four Cont. of the Council of New York } Read all the Comrs except Mr Franklin. abroad by his appointt. in the morning.

The Draft of the Representation &c was read and considered paragraph by Paragraph, some Amendments made, and the whole was agreed to, and ordered to be minuted as follows,

That His Majesties Title to the Northern Continent of America appears to be founded on the Discovery thereof first made, and the possession thereof first taken - in 1497 under a Commission from Henry 7th of England to Sebastian Cabot.

That the French have possessed themselves of several parts of this Continent, which by Treaties have been ceded and confirmed to them.

That the right of the English to the whole Sea Coast from Georgia on the South, to the River St Laurance on the North, excepting the Island of Cape Breton, and the Islands in the Bay of St Laurance, remains plain and indisputable.

That all the Lands or Countries westward from the Atlantic Ocean to the South Sea between 48. and 34 Degrees North Latitude were expressly included in the Grant of K. James the first to Divers of his Subjects, so long since as the year 1606, and afterwards confirmed in 1620, And under this Grant the Colony of Virginia claims Extent as far west as the South Sea, and the Antient Colonies of the Massachusets Bay and Connecticut were by their Respective Charters made to extend to the said South Sea: So that not only the right to the Sea Coast, but to all the inland Countries from Sea to Sea, has at all times been asserted by the Crown of England.

(59. That

That the Province of Nova Scotia or Acadia hath known and Determinate Bounds by the Original Grant from King James the first, and that there is abundant Evidence of the Sense which the French had of those Bounds while they were in possession of it; And that those Bounds being thus known, the said Province by the Treaty of Utrecht according to its Antient Limits was ceded to Great Brittain, and remained in possession there of until the Treaty of Aix-la-Chappelle, by which it was confirmed; But by the said Treaty it is Stipulated that the Bounds of the said Province shall be determined by Commissaries &c.

That by the Treaty of Utrecht, the Country of the five Cantons of the Iroquois is expressly acknowledged to be under the Dominion of the Crown of Great Brittain.

That the Lake Champlain, formerly called Lake Iroquois, and the Country Southward of it, as far as the Dutch or English Settlements. The Lakes Ontario, Erie, and all the Countries adjacent, have by all Antient Authors French and English, been allowed to belong to the five Cantons or Nations, and the whole of those Countries long before the said Treaty of Utrecht, were by the said Nations, put under the protection of the Crown of Great Brittain.

That by the Treaty of Utrecht there is reserved to the French, a Liberty of frequenting the Countrys of the five Nations, and other Indians in friendship with Great Brittain, for the sake of Commerce, as there is also to the English a Liberty of frequenting the Countries of those in friendship with France for the same purpose.

That after the Treaty of Utrecht, the French built several fortresses in the Country of the five Nations, and a very strong one at a place called Crown point, to the South of Lake Champlain.

60. That

That the french Court hath evidently since the Treaty of Aix-
La-Chappelle, made this Northern Continent more than ever the
object of its Attention.

That the french have most unjustly taken possession of part of
the province of Nova Scotia, and in the River St. Johns, and other
parts of said Province, they have built strong fortresses, and from
this River they will have during the Winter & Spring Seasons, a
much easier Communication between France and Canada than they
have heretofore had, and will be furnished with a Harbour more
commodiously Situated for the annoying the British Colonies by
Priviteers, and Men of War, than Louisburg it self.

That they have taken possession of, and began at the Head of
the River Penobscot, within the bounds of the Province of Main; the most Convenient
Situation for affording support and safe Retreat to the Eastern Indians
in any of their Attempts upon the Govt. of N. England.

That it appears by Information of the Natives, the french
have been making preparations for another Settlement at a place
called Cowass on Connecticut River near the Head thereof, where
it is but about ten Miles distant from a Branch of Merrimack
River, and from whence there is a very near and easy Communication
with the Abrichais Indians, who are settled on the River St. Francois
about 40 Miles from the River St. Lawrence. And it is certain
that the Inhabitants of New Hampshire, in which Province this
Cowass is supposed to be, have been interrupted and impeded by
the french Indians from making any Settlement there.

That since the Treaty of Aix la Chappelle the french have increased
the Number of their Forts in the Country of the Great Lakes, and on the
Rivers which Run into the Mississipi, and are securing a Communi-
cation between the two Colonies of Louisania and Canada; and at

61. the

the same time putting themselves into a Capacity of annoying the Southern British Colonies, and preventing any further Settlement of his Majesties Dominions.

That they have been gradually increasing their Troops in America, transporting them in their Ships of War, which return to France with a bare Complement of Men, leaving the Rest in their Colonies; And by this Means they are less observed by the Powers of Europe than they would be, if Transports as usual heretofore were provided for this purpose.

That they have taken Prisoners divers of his Majesties Subjects trading in the Country of the Iroquois and other Inland parts, and plundered such prisoners of several thousand pounds Sterling, and they are continually exciting the Indians to destroy or make prisoners the Inhabitants of the frontiers of the British Colonies, which prisoners are carried to Canada, and a price equal to what Slaves are sold for in the Plantations, is demanded for their Redemption and Release.

That they are continually drawing off the Indians from the British Interest, and have lately persuaded one half of the Onondago Tribe, with many from the other Nations along with them to remove to a place called Oswegachie, on the River Cadaraqui, where they have built them a Church and a fort, and many of the Senecas, the most numerous Nation, appear to be wavering, and rather inclined to the French. And it is a Melancholly Consideration that not more than 150 Men of all the several Nations have attended this Treaty, altho' they had Notice that all the Govts would be here by their Comrs, and that a large present would be given.

That it is the evident Design of the French to surround the British Colonies, to fortify themselves on the Back there of, to take and keep possession of the heads of all the important Rivers, to

62. draw

draw over the Indians to their Interest, and with the help of such Indians, added to such forces as are already Arrived, and may be hereafter sent from Europe, to be in a Capacity of making a general Attack upon the several Gov.ts And if at the same Time a Strong Naval force be sent from France, there is the utmost danger that the whole Continent will be subjected to that Crown. And that the Danger of such a Naval force is not meerly imaginary, may be argued from past Experience. for if it had not been for the most extraordinary Interposition of Heaven, every Sea Port Town on the Continent in the Year 1746, might have been ravaged & destroyed by the Squadron under the Command of the Duke D'Anville, not=withstanding the then declining State of the French, and the very flourishing State of the British Navy, and the further Advantage accruing to the English from the possession of Cape Breton.

That the French find by Experience they are able to make greater and more surer Advantages upon their Neighbours in Time of War than in War. What they unjustly possessed themselves of after the peace of Utrecht, they now pretend to have a Right to hold by Vertue of the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, untill the true Boundary between the French and English be settled by Commissaries. But their Conquests made during the War, they have been obliged to restore.

That the French Affairs relative to this Continent, are under one Direction, and constantly regarded by the Crown and Ministry, who are not insensible how great a Stride they would make towards an universal Monarchy, if the British Colonies were added to their Dominions, and consequently the whole Trade of North America engrossed by them.

That the said Colonies being in a divided, disunited State,

there

there has never been any Joint Exertion of their Forces or Councells to repel or defeat the Measures of the French, and particular Colonies are unable and unwilling to Maintain the Cause of the whole.

That there has been a very great Neglect of the Affairs of the Iroquois, or as they are commonly called, the Indians of the Six Nations, and their friendship and Alliance has been improved to private purposes, for the Sake of the Trade with them, and the purchase or Acquisition of their Lands, more than to the public Service.

That they are supplied with Rum by the Traders in vast and almost incredible Quantities; the Laws of the Colonies now in force being insufficient to restrain the Supply. And the Indians of every Nation are frequently drunk, and abused in their Trade, and their Affection thereby Alienated from the English, they often wound and murder one another in their Liquor, and to avoid Revenge, fly to the French; And perhaps more have been lost by these Means, than by the French Artifices.

That purchases of Lands from the Indians by private persons for small trifling Considerations have been the Cause of great Uneasiness and Discontent, and if the Indians are not in fact imposed on, and injured, yet they are apt to think that they have been, and indeed they appear not fit to be intrusted at large with the Sale of their own Lands, And the Laws of some of the Colonies which make such Sales void, unless the Allowance of the Govt. be first Obtained, seem to be well founded.

That the granting or Patenting Vast Tracts of Land to private Persons, or Companies, without Conditions of speedy Settlement, has tended to prevent the Strengthening the Frontiers of the particular Colony where such Tracts lye, and been prejudicial to the rest.

64. That

That it seems absolutely necessary that Speedy & effectual Measures be taken to secure the Colonies from the Slavery they are threatned with, That any further Advances of the French shou'd be prevented, and the Encroachments already made removed; That the Indians in Alliance or Friendship with the English be constantly regarded under some wise direction or Superintendancy; That Endeavours be used for the Recovery of those Indians who are lately gone over to the French, and for securing those that remain; That some discreet person or persons be appointed to reside constantly with each Nation of Indians; such Person to have no concern in the Trade, and duly to communicate all Advices to the Superintendants.

That the Trade with the said Indians be well Regulated, and made subservient to the public Interest, more than to private Gain; That there be Forts built for the Security of each Nation, and the better carrying on the Trade with them; That Warlike Vessels be provided sufficient to maintain his Majesties Right to a free Navigation on the several Lakes.

That all future purchases of Lands from the Indians, be void, unless made by the Govt where such Lands lye, and from the Indians in a Body in their publick Councils.

That the Patentees, or Possessors of large unsettled Territories, be enjoined to cause them to be Settled in a Reasonable Time on pain of forfeiture; That the Complaints of the Indians, relative to any Grants or possessions of their Lands, fraudulently obtained, be enquired into, and all Injuries redressed; That the Bounds of those Colonies which extend to the South Seas, be contracted and limited by the Alleghenny, or Apalachian Mountains, and that Measures be taken for Settling from time to time Colonies of his Majesties Protestant Subjects, westward of said Mountains, in convenient

Cantons

Cautions, to be assigned for that purpose; And finally that there be an Union of his Majesties several Governments on the Continent, that so their Councils Treasure and Strength may be employed in due proportion, against their common Enemy. All which is submitted.

Adjourned till 9. o Clock to Morrow Morning.

At a Meeting in the Court house in Albany Wednesday the 10th. July 1754. A.M.
present.

All the Comrs. for Mass. Bay.
all from N. Hampshire, except
Mr. Sherburne,
all the Comrs. from Connect.
the Comrs. for Rh. Island.
All the Comrs. from Pennsylva.
and all the Comrs. for Maryland.

Jos. Murray and Wm. Smith Esqrs.
of the Council of New York.

Mr. Franklin reported the Draft in a New form of a Plan of an Union agreeable to the Determination of yesterday; which was read paragraph by paragraph, and debated, and the further Consideration of it deferred to the Afternoon.

Adjourned to three of the Clock this Afternoon.

At a Meeting &c on Wednesday the 10th. of July 1754. P.M.
present.
The Honble. the Lieut. Govr. and the four Gent. of the Council of New York.
and
all the Commrs. for the respective Governments.

The Consideration of the Plan of an Union was resumed, which Plan is as follows, viz.

66.

Plan—

Plan of a proposed Union of the several Colonies of Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, for their mutual Defence and Security, and for extending the British Settlements in North America.

That humble Application be made for an Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, by virtue of which a general Government may be formed in America, including all the said Colonies, within and under which Govt each Colony may retain its present Constitution, except in the particulars wherein a Change may be directed by the said Act, as hereafter follows,

Presid: General. & Grand Council.

That the said General Government be administred by a President General to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council to be Chosen by the Representatives of the people of the several Colonies, met in their respective Assemblies.

Election of Members.

That within _____ after the passing of such Act, the House of Representatives in the several Assemblys that happen to be sitting within that time, or that shall be specially for that purpose convened, may and shall chuse Members for the Grand Council, in the following proportion, that is to say,

Massachusets Bay	7.	Pennsylvania	6.
New Hampshire	2.	Maryland	4.
Connecticut	5.	Virginia	7.
Rhode Island	2.	North Carolina	4.
New York	4.	South Carolina	4.
New Jersey	3.		48.
	67.		

who

Place of first Meeting. } who shall meet for the first Time at the City of Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania, being called by the President General, as soon as conveniently may be after his Appointment

New Election } That there shall be a new Election of Members for the Grand Council every three Years; and on the Death or Resignation of any Member, his place shall be supplied by a new Choice at the next sitting of the ~~Colony~~ Assembly of the Colony he represented.

Proportion of Members after first 3 Years. } That after the first three Years, when the Proportion of Money arising out of each Colony to the General Treasury can be known, the Number of Members to be chosen for each Colony shall from time to time in all ensuing Elections, be regulated by that Proportion [yet so as that the Number to be Chosen by any one Province be not more than seven, nor less than two,].

Meetings of Grand Council and Call. } That the Grand Council shall meet once in every Year, and oftener if Occasion require, at such Time and place as they shall adjourn to at the last preceeding Meeting, or as they shall be called to meet at, by the President General on any Emergency, he having first obtained in writing the Consent of seven of the Members to such Call, and sent due and timely Notice to the whole.

Continuance } That the Grand Council have power to chuse their Speaker, and shall neither be dissolved, prorogued, nor continued sitting longer than six Weeks at one Time, without their own Consent, or the Special Command of the Crown.

Members Allowance } That the Members of the Grand Council shall be allowed for their Service, Ten Shillings Sterling per Diem, during their Sessions, and Journey to and from the Place of

Meeting.

Meeting, twenty Miles to be reckoned a Days Journey.

Assent of Presid.t General, & His Duty. } That the Assent of the President General be requisite to all Acts of the Grand Council; And that it be his Office and Duty to cause them to be carried into Execution.

Power of Presid.t Gen.l & Grand Council, Treaties, Peace & War, Indian Trade. } That the President General with the advice of the Grand Council, hold or direct all Indian Treaties in which the General Interest or Welfare of the Colonies may be concerned, and make Peace, or declare War with the Indian Nations. That they make such Laws as they Judge necessary for regulating all Indian Trade; That they make

Indian Purchases. } all Indian Purchases from the Indians for the Crown, of Lands now not within the Bounds of particular Colonies, or that shall not be within their Bounds when some of them are reduced to more convenient Dimensions. That they make

New Settlements } new Settlements on such Purchases, by granting Lands in the Kings Name, reserving a Quitrent to the Crown, for the Use of the General Treasury. That they make Laws for

Laws to govern them. } regulating and Governing such new Settlements, till the Crown shall think fit to form them into particular Governments. That they raise and pay Soldiers, and build forts

Raise Soldiers, & equip Vessels. } for the Defence of any of the Colonies, and equip Vessells of force to guard the Coasts and protect the Trade on the Ocean, Lakes, or Great Rivers. But they shall

Not to impress. } its Legislature. not impress Men in any Colony without the Consent of That for those purposes they have Power to

Power to make Laws, lay Duties, &c. } make Laws, and lay and levy such General Duties, Imposts, or Taxes, as to them shall appear most equal and Just, considering the Ability, and other Circumstances of the Inhabitants in the Several Colonies, and such as may

be collected with the least Inconvenience to the People, rather discouraging Luxury, than loading Industry with unnecessary Burthens.

Gen.l Treasurer, & particular Treasurer. } That they may appoint A General Treasurer, & a particular Treasurer in each Government when necessary; and from time to time may order the Sums in the Treasuries of each Gov.t into the General Treasury, or draw on them for special Payments, as they find most Convenient.

Money, how to issue. } Yet no money to Issue but by Joint Orders of the President General and Grand Council, except where Sums have been Appropriated to particular Services, and the President General is previously impowered by an Act to draw for such Sums.

Accounts. } That the General Accounts shall be yearly Settled and reported to the several Assemblies.

Quorum. } That a Quorum of the Grand Council, impowered to Act with the President General, do consist of 25 Members, among whom there shall be one or more from a Majority of the Colonies.

Laws to be transmitted. } That the Laws made by them for the purposes aforesaid, shall not be repugnant, but, as near as may be, agreeable to the Laws of England, and shall be transmitted to the King in Council, for Approbation, as soon as may be after their passing, and if not disapproved within three Years, after Presentation, to remain in force.

Death of the Presid.t Gen.l } That in Case of the Death of the President Gen.ll, the Speaker of the Grand Council for the time being, shall succeed, and be vested with the same Powers and Authorities, to continue till the Kings Pleasure be known.

Officers, how appointed. } That all Military Commission Officers, whether for Land or Sea Service, to Act under this General Constitution, shall be nominated by the Presid.t General; but the Approbation of the Grand Council is to be obtained before they receive their Commissions. And all civil Officers

are to be nominated by the Grand Council, and to receive the Presid.t
General's Approbation before they officiate. But in Case of Vacancy,
Vacancies how supplied. } by Death or Removal, of any Officer civil or
Military, under this Constitution, the Gov.r of the
Province in which such Vacancy happens, may appoint, till the
Pleasure of the President General and Grand Council can be known.
That the particular Military as well as civil Establishments in each
Colony, remain in their present State, this General Constitution not=
=withstanding. And that on Sudden Emergencies, any Colony may
Each Colony may defend itself on Emergency. &c } defend itself, and lay the Accounts of Expence
thence arisen, before the President General and
Grand Council, who may allow and order payment
of the Same, as far as they Judge such Accounts just & reasonable.

After Debate on the foregoing Plan,

Resolved

That the Comrs from the Several Govts be desired to
lay the Same before their respective Constituents for their Consid.n
And that the Secretary to this Board, transmit a Copy thereof with
this Vote thereon, to the Govs of each of the Colonies which have not
sent their Commissioners to this Congress.

His Honour proposed to the Board, that agreeable to
their Resolution of the 24th of June, they would now consider the
Expediency of building forts in the Indian Country. It was determined
that considering the present wavering Disposition of the Senecas
it was expedient that a fort should be built in their Country, at
a Place called Irondiquot, or Tirondoquot.

Ordered

That a Committee be appointed to Consider what further
Forts may be necessary in the Country of the Six Nations and

that

that each Colony name a Member for this Committee.

Ordered That Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters be a Committee to revise the Minutes settled and agreed to by this Board.

Adjourned till to Morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Thursday the 11th. July 1754. A.M.

present

His Hon.r the Lieu.t Gov.r and the A Genl. of the Council of N. York
All the Comm.rs from the several Gov.ts — except Wm. Pitkin Esq.r one of the Comm.rs of Connecticut.

Mr. Wells, from the Committee appointed to consider what other forts may be necessary, Reported,

That they had carefully considered the present State of the frontiers of those Colonies, and are of opinion, that several other Forts at particular Passes are equally necessary with that proposed at Crowndiguot. That as there is no probability of their being effected in the present disunited State of the Colonies, and the General Union may make some of them unnecessary. We apprehend some Inconveniencies may arise if the Board should go further into the Consideration of that Matter at this Time.

His Honour put the Question, Whether the Board would accept of this Report, and it passed in the Affirmative.

Certain proposals from Wm. Johnson Esq.r relative to the six Nations, and for defeating the designs of the French; also certain Considerations offered by Thomas Pownall Esq.r "towards a "general Plan of the Measures of the English Provinces," were read at the Board. It was thereupon Voted, That Mr. Franklin be desired to give the thanks of this Board to the said Mr. Johnson and Mr. Pownall, and desire them to suffer Copies of

of said Papers to be taken, by the Comrs. of each Colony, for the Consideration of their respective Governments.

Ordered

That all his Majestie's Governments on this Continent may have liberty from time to time to take Copies of the proceedings of this Congress, or any parts thereof, paying for the same, and that no other Copies be delivered by the Secretary.

Ordered

That upon the Secretary's leaving this Province; the Records of these proceedings of the Comm.rs of the several Govts. be lodged in the Secretary's Office of the Province of New York.

Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters Reported that they had examined those Minutes of the Proceedings of this Congress, and find them right.

And then his Honour the Lieut. Gov.r of New York, and the Commissioners of the several Governments rose without any further Adjournment.

A true Copy

[illegible] for peace

[illegible] Nations with which the Governor
[illegible] Nations into these Colonies:
Which points the Council approved of
recommended accordingly
Ordered that Mr Banyar do wait upon the
Commissioners from the several Governments and acquaint them
that his Honour desires they will meet him in Council at the
Hall to Morrow Morning at 11 o'Clock, in order to produce them,
and proceed upon Business.

At a Council held at the City Hall in
the City of Albany the 19th day of June 1754
Present
The Hon.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.
Mr Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

The Commissioners from the Governments of New Hampshire
Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pensylvania and
Maryland took their Seats, and then his Honour opened the
Conferences by reading that part of the Letter from the Lords
of Trade of the 18th September last, which relates to a Meeting with the
Indians, and directs the Treaty to be made with them, to be in his
Majesty's Name; and to confirm all his Majesty's Colonies and then
the Commissioners produced their respective Commissions. Which
were read.

His Honour then laid before the Commissioners the
two Minutes of the proceedings of this Board in Indian
affairs, and the Commissioners of the several Colonies having taken
Council yesterday: and recommended as the first step necessary
to be taken at this Congress, that the Commissioners should
communicate to each other the several Matters they might have proper to be
laid before the Indians at the intended Conferences with them,
and prepare the Speech to be made on that occasion: for which purpose
his Honour acquainted them, he would direct the Secretary or
Agent of Indian affairs, to attend them with the Records of that
Office, and the Commissioners of Indian affairs to meet together as
often as requisite in the Forenoons, while they might get from them
all the necessary information relative to Indian affairs.

At a Council held at the City of Albany the
21st day of June 1754.

Present
The Hon.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.
Mr Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

His Honour acquainted the Council that he had appointed this
Afternoon

Mohawks.

for their arrival to make this speech
had prepared a Message to be sent to t
laid before the Board, and which was approv
follows:

Brethren of Connajoharie.

I am Surprized at your
so long from this place, where I have been for a cons
time. I expected you here among the first, as you ha
Complaints to make to me; which I have been, and a
ready to hear; and I would have you come down imm
whereon I and the Commissioners from the other Gover
shall be oblig'd to speak to the Six Nations without y

To their Sachems
Warriors &
Sachems

At a Council held in the City o
Albany the 25th day of June 1754. P. M.
Present
The Hon.ble Sr. Wm. Johnson Bar.t Lieut.t Gov.r
Col.o Johnson
Col.o Chambers
Mr. Smith.

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpreter that
the Canada Indians of the Mohawk Indians now in this City, ha
some Business to lay before him, and desired to be admitted
to an audience; appointed them to attend at 4 o'Clock this
afternoon in Council, & they attending accordingly,—
were introduced with the Interpreter.

The Governor told them he was very glad to
see them, that he was now in Council, and ready to hear
what they had to say.

Whereupon (
himself as their Sachem, spoke as follows.

Canadagaia their Speaker, addressing

Brother

We are here
Sir William Johnson, to which place you have before resorted by
the Head. This is our Old Meeting place, where, if we have
any grievances, or can
to the Administration, and we are glad to see you to day our
Complaints before you— We exhibit very like you have given
us this opportunity to unfold our Minds, and we will now
proceed to declare our Grievances.

Brother.

We shall now open our Minds and we beg you will
take care to consider what we shall say, and not give us
-Too.

The Lower Castle & Mohawks is divided and accompanied with them is what they complain of that the said Canadagaia & Tagaderoora are not their Sachems & Chiefs though the pretend.

for their arrival to make the Resp
had prepared a Message to be sent to
laid before the Board, and which was appro
follows:

Brethren of Connajoharie.

I am Surprized at your
so long from this place, where I have been for a con
time expected you here among the first, as you ha
complaints to make to me, which I have been, and a
ready to hear, and I would have you come down imm
whatever I and the Commissioners from the other Gove
shall be obliged to speak to the Six Nations without y

At a Council held in the City o
Albany the 25th day of June 1768. Present
The Hon.ble James de Lancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r
W.m Murray
Jo.s Johnson
W.m Chambers
W.m Smith.

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpreter that
the Lower Castle of the Mohawk Indians now in this City ha
some Business to lay before him, and desired to be admitte
to an audience; appointed them to attend at 4 o'Clock this
afternoon in Council and they attended accordingly,—
were introduced with the Interpreter.

His Honour told them he was very glad to
see them, that he was met in Council, and ready to hear
what they had to say.

Hendrick Aaradagaia their Speaker, addressi
himself to his Honour, spoke as follows.

Brother

We are here this day by your will, and your
Invitation for which purpose you have before sent here by
us a Belt. This is our Old Meeting place, where, if we have
any grievances, we can lay them open. You are lately come
to the Administration, and we are glad to see you to lay our
Complaints before you—We take it very kind you have given
us this opportunity to unfold our Minds, and we will now
proceed to declare our Grievances.

Brother.

We shall now open our Minds and we beg you will
take care to consider what we shall say, and not give us

—too.

former Governor did, who returned his
was he intended to depart, so that we
last Business with him. The Reason we des
us in this tender manner, is because this is the
are to expect a Redress of our Grievances, and we hope
will be so settled that we may part good friends.

Brethren. We told you a little while ago, that we had one
on our minds, and we shall now tell you what it is. It is concer
our Land: We understand that there are Writings for all our
so that we shall have none left but the very spot we live upon,
hardly that. We have examined among the Elderly people who
are now present, if they have sold any of it, who deny that they ever
have and we earnestly desire you will take this into consideration
which will give us great satisfaction, and convince us that you have a Friendship for us.
We don't comprehend any of those who have honestly bought the Land
they possess, or of those to whom we have given any, but of some we
have taken more than we have given them. We find we are very
poor we thought we had yet Land round about us but it is said
there are Writings for it all. We on condition of the Ancient
Covenant Chain that if there be any one Indian on either side, or any
request to be made, that they shall be considered with a Brotherly
Regard, and we hope you will fulfill that condition on your side,
as we shall be always ready to do on ours. We have embraced the
opportunity of unbosoming ourselves to you, with Regard to our
Lands; and we are well assured that the other Castle of the Mohawks
have complaints of the same nature to make, when they come down
We have now declared our own Grievances, and the Inhabitants
will declare theirs, but that we shall leave to them: But this Belt we
desire you to consider what we have said, and by the same we inform
you, that the five Nations have something to say to you before you
speak to them.

Gave a Belt.

His Honour said — You have now unbosomed yourselves
to me, and desired I would seriously consider of such as you have
said, and not give you a hasty Answer. I will consider of it very seriously
and you shall always find me ready to redress any of your Griev-
ances as far as it may be in my power. But your Complaints are
general, I must therefore desire you to tell me where those Lands lie
and the names of the persons of whom you complain:

To which their Speaker answered.

Brother. We are told a large Tract of Land has been taken up
called Kayadarosseras beginning at the half moon, and so up
along

...ways or Canada Brethren
...les above the Mohawks. Which upon ...
...ld Men, we cannot find was ever sold: and ...
...Persons many of them live in this Town, but ...
a Number we cannot name them.

The Governor said

Governor tells he will send for some of the Persons claiming that Land, and hear what they have to say, and consider the Matter, and give you an answer before you leave this place. It is agreeable to Justice to hear both parties before a Judgment is given, and to make Peace. Friends you may depend upon it, I will do you all the Justice in my power.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the twenty second day of June 1754.

Present

The Hon.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.
M.r Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith

Interpreter acquainted the Governor that the Connojoharys or Chiefs Castle of the Mohawk Indians, and several Sachems of the other Six Nations, attended without, and desired to speak to him they were introduced with the Interpreter.

Hendrick their Speaker Spoke as follows.

Brother. We had a Message from you some time ago to meet you at this place, upon the fire burns. We & Connojoharys met the Messenger you sent with a Letter, at Col.o Johnsons as soon as we received it, we came down running, and the Six Nations are now here complete.

The Governor then said.

Brethren of the Six Nations you are Welcome. I take this opportunity now you are all together to condole the Loss in the Death of your friends and Relations since you last met here and with this String of Wampum I wipe away your Tears, and take sorrow from your minds and your breasts freely.

A String of Wampum

Hendrick Replied.

Brother We thank you for condoling our Loss, and for wiping away our Tears that we may speak freely; and as we do not doubt but you have lost some of your great Men and Friends, We give you this String of Wampum to condole you in return, that it may remove your sorrow, and that we may both speak freely.

Gave a String

At a Meeting in the Court House at
Albany on Wednesday the 26 June 1754 A. M.

PRESENT

William Johnson & John Chambers Esqrs
of the Council of New York.

Samuel Welles, John Chambers, Thomas Hutchinson, & Oliver Partridge Esqrs Commissrs for Massachusetts Bay.

William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott, & Elisha Williams Esqrs Commissioners for Conneticutt.

Martin Howard Junr Esqr Commissioner for Rhode Island

The Draught of the General Speech to the Six Nations was further Debated, but not being fully concluded upon. The Board adjourned till 10 a Clock to morrow Morning

At a Meeting in the Court House at
Albany on Thursday the 27th June 1754. A. M.

PRESENT

The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York & all the Commissioners.

The Draught of the General Speech was further debated and not being fully concluded upon the Board Adjourned till 5 a Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany
on Thursday the 27 June 1754 P. M.

PRESENT

The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York & all the Commissioners

A Motion was made, that the Commissions or Powers from the Several Governments should be made part of the Records of this Congress

It was unanimously agreed to and ordered to be prefixed to these Records.

The Draught of the General Speech was Settled, Read and unanimously approved of, and is as follows.

BRETHREN

I have invited you here by the Command of the Great King our Common Father, to Receive a present from him, and in his name to renew the Antient Treaty between this and all his other Governments and you our Brethren; And I have the pleasure to tell you that by his Special Order, there are now present Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island Pensylvania and Maryland.

Virginia and Carolina likewise desire to be considered as present, altho' some great affairs which those Governments are engaged in, have prevented their sending Commissioners. We are glad to see our Brethren here in health and heartily bid you welcome. . A Belt

BRETHREN

We Condole your and our Loss in the Death of some of your People, since the last Interview in this Place. We wipe away all Tears from your Eyes, and take away Sorry from your Hearts, that you may Speak freely. Three Strings of Wampum

BRETHREN

We come to Strengthen and Brighten the Chain of Friendship It gives us great Satisfaction that you have lately added two Links to the Chain; The Shanchadaradighroones and the Tedderighroones, As it will always give us pleasure to see your Strength increased. This Chain hath remained firm and unbroken from the beginning. This Belt will represent to you our Disposition to preserve it. Strong and Bright so long as the Sun and Moon shall endure, and in the name of the Great King our Father, And in the behalf of all his Majesties Colonies, We now Solemnly

renew, brighten and Strengthen the antient Covenant Chain, and promise to keep the same Inviolable and Free from Rust. And We Expect the like Confirmation & assurance on your part.

A Chain Belt

His Honour the Lieu[t] Governor explained this Chain Belt to them in the following manner.

BRETHREN

This Represents the King our Common Father, This Line Represents his arms Extended, embracing all us the English and all the Six Nations, These represent the Colonies which are here present and those who desire to be thought present, These represent the Six Nations and there is a space left to draw in the other Indians, and There in the Middle is the line represented which draws us all in under the King our Common Father.

The foregoing Explanation having been added to the general Speech by his Honour at his delivery of it, doth not appear in the proceedings of the Congress, But stands in the Records of Indian Affairs and is therefore supplyed in this manner by PETER WRAXALL Secretary for Indian Affairs

BRETHEREN

We are informed that you now live dispersed from each other, contrary to the Antient and prudent Custom of your forefathers. And as you are by this means exposed to the attempts of your Enemies. We therefore in the most earnest manner recommend to and expect it from you, for your own safety, to collect yourselves together and dwell in your National Castles. We desire you Brethren of the Onondaga Nation in particular, to call in your Friends and Relations to join you, especially those of your Nation who now live at Osweegachie, A Brave people separated from each other may easily fall a Sacrifice, Whereas united they may live secure and uninjured A Belt

BRETHEREN

We have something to say to you of great Importance. The Treatys subsisting between us and you our Brethren, as well as the Great Affection we bear towards you, Oblige us to mention it. The French profess to be in perfect Friendship with us as well as you, Notwithstanding this, they are making continual Incroachments upon us both: They have lately done so in the most insulting manner both to the Northward and Westward. Your Fathers by their valour above One hundred Years ago, gained a considerable Country, which they Afterwards of their own Accord put under the protection of the King of Great Britain. The French are endeavouring to possess themselves of this whole Country, altho' they have made the most Express Treaties with the Engli[sh] to the contrary.

BRETHEREN It appears to us that these Measures of the French must necessarily soon interrupt and destroy all Trade and Intercourse between the English and the several Indian Nations on the Continent, and will Block up and Obstruct, the Great Roads which have hitherto lain open between you and your Allies and Friends who live at a distance.

We want to know whether these things appear to you in the same light as they do to us, or whether the French taking possession of the Lands in your Country, and building Forts between the Lakes Erie and the River Ohio, be done with your Consent or Approbation. A large Belt

BRETHEREN

Open your Hearts to us, deal with us as Bretheren, we are ready to consult with you how to Scatter these Clouds that hang over us. This is a matter of so great weight, that we think it best to defer mentioning any other Affair till you have considered this, least they should take away part of that attention which is necessary on so extraordinary an Occasion A Belt

Adjourned till to morrow Morning at 11 a Clock

At a Council held in the City of Albany
the 27 June 1754. P. M.

PRESENT

The Honoble James De Lancey Esqr Lieut Governor &Ca
Mr Murray Mr Chambers
Collo Johnson Mr Smith

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpreter that the lower Castle of the Mohawk Indians now in this City, had some Bussiness to lay before him, and desired to be admitted to an Audience, Appointed them to attend at 4 aClock this Afternoon in Council, and they attending Accordingly were introduced with the Interpreter.

The Governor told them he was very glad to see them. That he was now Met in Council and ready to hear what they had to say

Whereupon Canadagaia their Speaker Addressing himself to his Honour spoke as follow.

BROTHER

We are here this Day by Gods will and your Honours Order to which place you have led us as it were by the hand. This is our Old Meeting place, Where if we have any Grievances We can lay them Open. You are lately come to the Administration and we are glad to see you to lay our Complaints before you. We take it very kind you have given us this Opportunity to unfold our minds and will now proceed to declare our Grievances.

BROTHER

We shall now open our Minds, And we beg you will take time to consider what we shall say and not give us too heasty an Answer or in two or three Words, and then turn your back upon us. As you are a New Governor We beg you will treat us tenderly and not as the former Governor did, who turned his Back upon us before we knew he intended to depart, so that We had no Opportunity to finish our Business with him. The reason we desire you would Treat us in this Tender manner, is because this is the place where we are to expect a Redress of our Grievances and we hope all things will be so Settled that we may part good Friends.

BROTHER

We told you a little while ago that we had an Uneasiness on our minds and we shall now tell you what it is. It is Concerning our land. We understand that there are Writings for all our Lands so that we shall have none left but the very Spot we live upon, and hardly that. We have examined amongst the Elderly People who are now present if they have sold any of it, who deny that they ever have. And we earnestly desire you will take this into Consideration, which will give us great Satisfaction, and convince us that you have a Friendship for us. We dont complain of those who have honestly Bought the Land, they possess, or those to whom we have given any but to some who have taken more than we have given them. We find we are very poor; We thought we had yet Land round about us, but it is said there are writings for it all. It is one Condition of the Ancient Covenant Chain, that if there be any uneasiness on either side or any Request to be made, that they shall be considered with a Brotherly regard. And we hope you will fulfill this Condition on your side, as we shall always be ready to do on Ours. We have embraced this Opportunity of unbosoming ourselves to You with regard to our Castle, and we are well assured that the other Castle of the Mohawks have Complaints of the same Nature to make when they come down. We have now declared our own Grievances and the Canajoharys will declare theirs, but that we shall leave to them. By this Belt we desire you to consider what we have said, and by the same we inform you that the Five Nations have Something to say to you before you speak to them Gave a Belt

The Governor said

You have now unbosomed Yourselves to me. And desire I would seriously consider of what you have said and not give you a hasty Answer.

I will consider of it seriously and you shall always find me ready to redress any of your Grievances as far as it may be in my Power. But your Complaints are General. I must therefore desire You to tell me where those Lands lye and the Names of the Persons of whom you Complain

To which their Speaker answered.

BROTHER

We are told a large Tract of Land has been taken up called Kayadarosseras beginning at the half Moon and so up along Hudsons River to the third Fall and thence to the Cacknawaga or Canada Creek which is about 4 or 5 Miles above the Mohawks; Which upon enquiry among our Old Men We cannot find was ever Sold; And as to the particular Persons many of them live in this town, but there are so great a Number we cannot name them.

The Governor said,

I will send for some of the patentees or Persons Claiming that Land and hear what they have to say and Consider the Matter and give you an Answer before you leave this place. It is agreeable to justice to hear both parties before a Judgment is given. And to Manyfest my Friendship for you, I will do you all the Justice in my power.

A true Copy Exam^{d} By Gw. Banyar D^{y} C. of the Council

At a Council held in the City of Albany
the 28 June 1754.

PRESENT

The Hono^{ble} James Delancey Esqr Lieu^{t} Governor &c.
Mr Murray
Coll^{o} Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

His Honour being informed that the Cannajohary or the upper Castle of the Mohawk Indians, and Several Sachems of each of the other five nations, attended without, and desired to speak to him, they were introduced with the Interpreter.

Hendrick their Speaker spoke as follows.

BROTHER

We had a Message from you sometime ago to meet you at this Place Where the Fire Burns; We of Conajohary met the Messenger you sent with a Letter, at Collo Johnsons and as soon as we received it, came down running, And the 6 Nations are now here Compleat.

The Governor then said.

BRETHEREN of the Six Nations, you are Welcome; I take this Opportunity now you are altogether to condole the Loss in the Death of your Friends and Relations, since you last met here, And with this String of Wampum, I wipe away your Tears and take Sorrow from your Hearts, that you may open your minds and speak freely

A String of Wampum.

Hendrick replyed.

BROTHER

We thank you for condoling our loss and for wiping away our Tears that we may speak freely: And as we do not doubt but you have lost some of your great Men and Friends, We give you this string of Condolence in return, that it may remove your Sorrow and that we may both speak freely.

Gave a String

At a Council held in Court House at Albany Thursday Afternoon June 27. 1754. in which four delegates from New York were present. They had been empowered to act for their respective states whom they represented. It was resolved:—

account of the speeches by the delegates as follows:—

Brethren:- I have called you to this Council by Commission of His Magesty the King Our Father it is in his name we will renew our Treaty made with him and his subjects.

Brethren:- I am much pleased to inform you that by permission of His Majesty we have with us today our Brethren from Massachusetts Bay New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania also Maryland, Virginia and Carolina, all of whom exerted themselves in order to be able to send a delegate to our Council. We are happy to see you all at peace and welcome you! Belt.

Brethren: We are sorry to hear of the death of one of your brethren since we last met in council. We have come to take away your sorrow from your hearts, we will wipe your tears away, so that you may speak in peace. Three Wampum Belts.

Brethren:- We are here to renew our Treaty and to burnish bright the Covenant Chain of Brotherly Love.. We are pleased to see added two more links to this Chain Shanchadaradighrones and Tedderighsrones.

We will always be pleased to strengthen the power of this Chain which is to perpetuate as long as the sun shines and the moon at night.

We want to be at peace with our brethren and to revere the name of His Majesty the King Our Father, we have now renewed our Treaty, polished bright the Covenant Chain of Brotherly Love and hereafter will allow no rust upon it. and we expect our brethren to do the same

"by Matthew
delegate.

[illegible] or Barnards Brook
[illegible] above the Mohawks, Whereupon
[illegible] Men, we cannot find was ever voted: and
Persons many of them live in this Town, but
a Number we cannot name them.

The Governor said

I will send for some of the
or the Persons claiming that Land, and hear what
have to say, and consider the Matter, and give you an
before you leave this place. It is agreeable to Justice to
both parties before a Judgment is given, and to make Jus
Friendship for you, I will do you all the Justice in my Po

Governor tells
will send for
Indians to
hear and hear
what they say.

At a Council held at the City of Albany
the twenty eighth day of June 1753.

Present

The Hon.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut Gov.r &c.

Mr Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

Agreeable with the Opinion of the Board the Governor has sent for the Indians to hear what they have to say.

The Governor informed the Board that the Commissioners of Virginia and Maryland, and several Sachems of each of those two Nations, attended without, and desired to speak to him, they were introduced with the Interpreter.

Hendrick their Speaker Spoke as follows.

Brother

We had a Message from you some time ago to meet you at this place, when the fire burns. We all Commissioners met you at this place, when the fire burns. We all Commissioners met the Messenger you sent with a Letter, at Col.o Johnson and as soon as we received it, we came down running, and the Six Nations are now here compleat.

The Governor then said.

Brethren of the Six Nations you are welcome. I take this opportunity now you are all together to condole the Loss in the Death of your friends and Relations since you last met here and with this String of Wampum I wipe away your Tears, and take sorrow from your hearts, that you may open your minds and speak freely.

A String of Wampum

Hendrick Replied.

Brother

We thank you for condoling our Loss, and for wiping away our Tears that we may speak freely; and as we do not doubt but you have lost some of your great Men and Friends, We give you this String of Condolence in return, that it may remove your sorrow, and that we may both speak freely.

(give a String)

[illegible] Johnson to Onond[illegible]
[illegible] their people. That Col.° Johnson would
[illegible]ected soon, and they would then have an
[illegible] him at albany, and laying their Grievances
[illegible]t the new governor arrived soon after, and we
[illegible]eard of his Arrival, but they had an account of his dea
now he is glad to see his Honour, to whom he would declare
Grievances, and then proceeded.

Father. He thought you would wonder why we of Connojoharie
so long. He will now give you the Reason. Last Summer we of
Conajoharie went down at New york to make our Complaints
We then thought the Covenant Chain was broken, because we
were neglected, and when you neglect Business, the French take
advantage of it, for they are never quiet. It seemed to us that the
Governor of N. York turned his back upon the five Nations, as if they
were no more, whereas the French are doing all their power to
draw us over to them.

We told the governor last Summer, We blamed him for the
neglect of the five Nations, and at the same time we told him
the French were drawing the five Nations away to Oswegachie,
owing to that Neglect, which might have been prevented, if
proper use had been made of that warning, but now we are
afraid it is too late. We remember how it was in former times,
when we were a strong and powerfull people, Col.° Schuyler used
frequently to come among us, and by this means we were kept
together.

Brother. We the Mohawks are in very difficult Circumstances, and
are blamed for things behind our backs, which we dont deserve.
Last Summer when we went up with Col.° Johnson to Onondaga
and he had made his speech to the five Nations, the five Nations
said they liked the Speech very well, but that the Mohawks had
made it. We are looked upon by the other Nations as Col.° Johnson's
Councellors and supposed to hear all News from him, which is not
the case, for Col.° Johnson does not receive from, or impart much News
to us. This is our Reason for staying behind, for if we had come
first, the other Nations would have said, that We made the
Governors Speech, and therefore tho we were resolved to come we
intended the other Nations should go before us, that they might
hear the Governors Speech which we could hear afterwards.

There are some of our People who have large open Ears,
and talk a little broken English and Dutch, so that they sometimes
hear what is said by the Christians set by us near them. And by this
means we came to understand that we are looked upon to be a
proud Nation, and therefore stayed behind. 'Tis true and known

We —

[illegible] not out of Pride we Come to Johan[illegible]
for the Reason we have already given.

His Honour Answered.

Brethren of Connojoharry.

You have now told me the
reason why you staid behind, because you would not be
the other Nations as you have been before. I am glad
to hear you say, that your staying behind did not p-
from pride.

You tell me you have large open Ears, &
some of you understand a little of the Language of the
about you, but I must caution you not to hearken to com
reports, neither of us or your Brethren of the other Nation
I hope that we may all speak freely, and open our hear
to each other, and so remove any Jealousies from among

I hope at another Interview you will all be mo
punctual, and keep as near as you can to the time appoin
you are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me and the
Commissioners from the other Governments to be detained so
long in this place at so great a distance from our Homes.

The General Assembly standing prorogued to
Last the second day of July, His Honour with the advice
of the Council was pleased further to prorogue the same
until Thursday the sixth day of August next, and thereupon
a Proclamation was signed by his Honour proroguing the
General Assembly accordingly.

At a Council held in the City of Albany
the second day of July 1754.

Present

The Hono.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c
W.m Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith.

In Conference with the Indians relative to the Disputes with Connecticut and some Grievances concerning the Purchase of Lands of the Indians

The Indians of the Connojoharry Castle having desired a Conference with his Honour they were introduced with the Interpreter.

His Honour told them he was ready to hear what they had to say.

Hendrick their Speaker addressing himself to his Honour said.

Brother. We shall begin from the last Meeting we had with
Governor

The Governor said

You have now unbosomed Yourselves to me. And desire I would seriously consider of what you have said and not give you a hasty Answer.

I will consider of it seriously and you shall always find me ready to redress any of your Grievances as far as it may be in my Power. But your Complaints are General. I must therefore desire You to tell me where those Lands lye and the Names of the Persons of whom you Complain

To which their Speaker answered.

BROTHER

We are told a large Tract of Land has been taken up called Kayadarosseras beginning at the half Moon and so up along Hudsons River to the third Fall and thence to the Cacknawaga or Canada Creek which is about 4 or 5 Miles above the Mohawks; Which upon enquiry among our Old Men We cannot find was ever Sold; And as to the particular Persons many of them live in this town, but there are so great a Number we cannot name them.

The Governor said,

I will send for some of the patentees or Persons Claiming that Land and hear what they have to say and Consider the Matter and give you an Answer before you leave this place. It is agreeable to justice to hear both parties before a Judgment is given. And to Manyfest my Friendship for you, I will do you all the Justice in my power.

A true Copy Examd By Gw. Banyar Dy C. of the Council

At a Council held in the City of Albany
the 28 June 1754.

PRESENT

The Honoble James Delancey Esqr Lieut Governor &c.
Mr Murray
Colle Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

His Honour being informed that the Cannajohary or the upper Castle of the Mohawk Indians, and Several Sachems of each of the other five nations, attended without, and desired to speak to him, they were introduced with the Interpreter.

Hendrick their Speaker spoke as follows.

BROTHER

We had a Message from you sometime ago to meet you at this Place Where the Fire Burns; We of Conajohary met the Messenger you sent with a Letter, at Collo Johnsons and as soon as we received it, came down running, And the 6 Nations are now here Compleat.

The Governor then said.

BRETHEREN of the Six Nations, you are Welcome; I take this Opportunity now you are altogether to condole the Loss in the Death of your Friends and Relations, since you last met here, And with this String of Wampum, I wipe away your Tears and take Sorrow from your Hearts, that you may open your minds and speak freely A String of Wampum.

Hendrick replyed.

BROTHER

We thank you for condoling our loss and for wiping away our Tears that we may speak freely: And as we do not doubt but you have lost some of your great Men and Friends, We give you this string of Condolence in return, that it may remove your Sorrow and that we may both speak freely.

Gave a String

Then Hendrick addressing himself to the Six Nations said, That last Year he attended Colº Johnson to Onondaga to do Service to the King and their People. That Colº Johnson told them a new Governor was expected soon, and then they would have an Opportunity of seeing him at Albany, and laying their grievances before him. That the new Governor arrived soon after and Scarcely had they heard of his arrival but they had an account of his Death. And that now he was glad to see his Honour to whom he would declare his Greviances, And then proceeded.

BROTHER

We thought you would wonder why we of Canajohary staid so long. We shall now give you the reason. Last Summer We of Connajohary were down at New York to make our Complaints, And we then thought the Covenant Chain was broken because we were neglected; And when you neglect Business the French take Advantage of it, for they are never quiet.

It seemed to us that the Governor had turned his Back upon the Five Nations, as if they were no more, Whereas the French are doing all in their Power to draw us over to them.

We told the Governor last Summer we blamed him for the Neglect of the Five Nations, and at the same time we told him, The French were drawing the Five Nations away to Osweegachie, owing to that Neglect which might have been prevented if proper use had been made of that Warning, but now we are Affraid it is to late. We Remember how it was in former times when we were a Strong and powerful People. Colº Schuyler used frequently to come amongst us, and by this Meanes we were kept together.

BROTHER

We the Mohawks are in very difficult Circumstances and are blamed for things behind our Backs which we dont deserve. Last Summer when we went up with Colº Johnson to Onondaga and he made his Speech to the 5 Nations, the five Nations said they liked the Speech very well, but that the Mohawks had made it. We are looked upon by the other Nations as Colº Johnson's Councellors and Supposed to hear all News from him, which is not the Case, for Colº Johnson does not receive from or impart much news to us. This is our Reason for Staying behind, for if we had came first, the other Nations would have said that we made the Governor's Speech, and therefore tho' we were resolved to come, we intended the other Nations should go before us that they might hear the Governors Speech, which we could hear Afterwards.

There are some of our People who have large open Ears and talk a little broken English and Dutch so that they sometimes hear what is said by the Christian Settlers near them; And by this means we came to understand that we are looked upon to be a proud Nation and therefore stayed behind. Tis true, and known we are so, And that we the Mohawks are the head of all the other Nations, here they are and the must own it. But it was not out of pride We Connojoharye staied behind—but for the Reason we have already given.

His Honour answered,

BRETHEREN OF CONNAJOHARY

You have now told me the reason why you staid behind, because you would not be blaimed by the other Nations as you have been before. I am Satisfied with what you say that your staying behind did not proceed from pride.

You tell me you have large open Ears and that some of You understand a little of the Language of the Settlers about you, But I must caution you not to hearken to common Reports, neither of us or your Bretheren of the other Nations. I desire that we may all speak freely and open our Hearts to each other and so remove any Jealousies from amongst us.

I hope that at another Interview you will all be more punctual and keep as near as you can to the time appointed. You are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me and the Commissioners from the other Governments to be detained so long in this Place at so great a distance from our homes.

a true Copy Examined
by Gw. Banyar D C of ye C^l

A Motion was made that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a Representation of the present state of the Colonies. Which was agreed to, and that the Gentlemen who were appointed to prepare & receive Plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies the 24 ult^o should be a Committee for this purpose.

The Plan for an Union of the Colonies was debated, but the Board came to no resolves upon it.

Adjourned to Nine oClock to morrow mornin^g

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany
on Tuesday the 2^d July 1754 A M.

PRESENT

All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pensylvania, and Maryland.

After debates held on the Plan of an Union, it was moved

If they Board should proceed to form the plan of Union of the Colonies to be established by an Act of Parliament.

Whereupon it was moved to put the previous Question—which passed in the Negative.

The Question was then put whether the Board should proceed to form the Plan of a Union of the Colonies to be established by an act of parliament—which passed in the Affirmative.

Adjourned to 3 aClock in the Afternoon.

At a meeting as aforesaid on Tuesday
the 2^d July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT

The Lieu^t Governor, & the four Gentlem^n of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners from the Several Governm^ts above mentioned.

The answer of the Six Nations to the General Speech made to them on Saturday last by his Honour the Lieu^t Governor of New York in his Majesties name and in the presence and behalf of the Several Governments on the Continent therein named was Read and is as follows.

Abraham a Sachem of the upper Castle of the Mohawks rose up and said.

BRETHEREN

You the Governor of New York and the Commissioners of the other Governments, are you ready to hear us.

They Governor replyed, they were all ready.

Then Hendrick Brother to the said Abraham and a Sachem of the said Castle, rose up, and spoke in behalf of the Six Nations as follows.

BRETHEREN

Just now you told us you were ready to hear us hearken to me Brother Corlaer and Brothers of the other Governments.

Saturday last you told us that you came here by order of the Great King our Common Father, and in his name to renew the Antient Chain of Friendship, between this and the other Governments on the Continent and us the Six united Nations; and you said also that there were then present

That the Indians of the Six Nations are really intend
to continue firm to their Treaties with the English

That they expect the English will act such a part as is
proper and expedient, for protecting, their own Settlements
and, the Indians in alliance with them

That they expect to have Justice done them, in
Purchases of Lands, and that there should be some
regard shewn to their Interests, and Accommodations

If they are not satisfied in these points it cannot
be expected they will openly engage themselves

As to the first Article the following answer made
to the Pennsylvania Commissioners, on a Publick
Treaty in July last at Albany, is sufficient

Brethren, We see that you are displeased with
our offer of Lands, We desire that you may be perfectly
pleased with us, and have therefore altered our Minds,
We offer you the Land from the River Susquehanna
to the farthest Bounds of the King's Grant to Mr.
Penn, We are told this reaches over the River Ohio,
Let it do so more or less, We will part with it
to Mr. Penn, that all the World may be convinced
We are no Frenchmen, We choose those Lands —
should belong to King Georges Subjects, not to
those of the King of France.

It is supposed if the same Methods were taken by the
English that are by the French, of Building Forts, for
the protection of the Indians, and their Trade, without
shewing a desire to settle the far distant Lands, where

there they hunt, which is their only Business, and by
which that hunting must be destroyed, they would soon
be brought to act as openly as they ever have done;
but the persons employed to treat with them, must do
it with the chief Council at Onondago, and not with
the straggling Indians, which gives disgust to the
Chiefs of those Nations, and employ such Interpreters
the Indians have the greatest confidence in.

Jean Du Pont

Nations here they
was not out of Pride we
for the Reason we have already given

His Honour Answered.

Brethren of Connojoharry.

You have now told me
was you staid behind, because you would not be
the other Nations as you have Ben before. I am
what you say, that your staying behind did not
from pride.

You tell me you have large open Ears,
some of you understand a little of the Language of the
about you, but I must caution you not to hearken to com
Reports, neither of us or your Brethren of the other Nation
know that we may always speak freely, and open our hearts
to each other, and so remove our Jealousies from among

I hope at another interview you will all be mo
punctual, and keep as near as you can to the time appoint
you are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me and the
Commissioners from the other Governments, to be detained so
long in this place at so great a distance from our Homes.

The General Assembly standing prorogued to
Tuesday the second day of July, His Honour with the advice
of the Council was pleased further to prorogue the same
until Thursday the sixth day of August next, and thereupon
a Proclamation was signed by his Honour proroguing the
General Assembly accordingly.

At a Council held in the City of Albany
the second day of July 1754.

Present

The Hon.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c
M.r Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith.

Conference with the Indians relative to the Disputes between Rogers and some Germans concerning the Purchase of Lands of the Indians

The Indians of the Connojoharry Castle having desired a Conference with his Honour they were introduced with the Interpreter.

His Honour told them he was ready to hear what they had to say.

Hendrick their Speaker addressing himself to his Honour said.

Brother We shall begin from the last Meeting we had with
Governor

that time. We then Complained
without our knowing it, and We were told
be considered, and an answer given at this
We desire that the poor Germans our Neigh
ve the Land We promised them, because we alway
poor, and they are our Neighbours, and we desire our
ndly to us and them, will grant the Land according to our
Agreement with these people. — Then Hendrick produced
dated the 31st of March 1753, to certain Germans, for a Trait of
lying between Canaroge and Canada Creeks, extending from
Talented Lands on the North side of the Mohawks River four
Miles into the Woods, which was read. And then proceeded as —
follows.

Brother — We have the same regard for Sir William [who ob
tained several Licences from the Governor to purchase the
Lands in Controversy, and Agreed with the Indians, and obtain
ed a Deed for a large Tract including this.] that We have for
those our poor Neighbours, and therefore desired they would be
reasonable and agree together, but we could not persuade them
to it. We should be sorry if either of them should suffer, and We
beg our Brother would decide the matter between them. These
Germans are poor and have no Writings. Sir William is Rich
and has Writings and Friends; and We beg you will give the
Germans Writings for these Lands. Our Blood has been very
warm for some time and we very uneasy on this Account and
therefore we desire it may be settled, and we shall be easy in our
minds.

Upon this the parties on both sides being present, his
Honour withdrew with them to endeavour to bring them to an
Agreement and being returned said,

Brethren. Upon enquiry you have endeavoured to bring the Parties
to an Agreement but could not. I have at your Request used
my endeavours for this end, and have thought succeeded, but it is
necessary you should mention the Sum you expect to be paid for
the Lands five or six Miles back of the four Miles you have given
the Germans, and if the parties agree to pay you what you demand
I will then acquaint you in what manner they have agreed to
divide it among them, and you may then give them Deeds accordingly,
and the controversy will be ended, and you have no further
Trouble or uneasiness about it.

The Indians said that they would consult together,
and when they had agreed would let his Honour know it.

Hendrick then said that they had some time last year
agreed with John Christopher Yardwick for the Sale of a Tract of
Land of six Miles square, but that when they came to survey it

they

23 199

[illegible] in lieu of this deficiency
much adjoining to it. That only one
but as it was a square piece, they thought
described with sufficient certainty in the d
and gave to Mr Hardwick for it. The Deed was
and read, and the Indians acknowledged they
the consideration money for the same, and desired
might be surveyed and a patent granted.

The Governor with the advice of the Counc
them, that the Reason why the Government had thought
proper to direct an actual Survey of the Land by the
General, before or at the time of the purchase, was to pre
their being imposed upon in the Sales of their Lands by
giving Deeds for more or other Lands than they intended
sell. But as it appeared in this case they were sensible
well of the quantity as the situation of the Land they ha
sold he would be make their minds easy, grant the Land
upon the Deed they had given, and order a Survey as soon
Mr Hardwick should make proper application.

The Governor then addressing himself to the Gover
said, That in the purchasing their Lands of them, Persons
were often employed as Interpreters who understand very
little of their Languages. That by this means Mistakes were
committed, and they sometimes injured. Wherefore they
desired the Province Interpreter, and no other might for the
future be employed on that Occasion.

The Governor told them he would promise them
nothing but what was in his power to perform. That he
doubted if he could give such directions, but would consider
of it. The Indians declared their Satisfaction and the
Conference ended.

At a Council held in the City
of Albany the third day of July 1764.

Present

The Hono^ble James De Lancey Esqr Lieut^t Govr &c^a

H. Murray
Col^o Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

The Interpreter being sworn
to act in the
Province accordingly

The Commissioners being introduced with the
Interpreter, Mr Hardwick desired the Interpreter to ask them
if they had agreed with the parties on the Sum they were
to be paid for the Lands six Miles back into the Woods, to
begin from the four Miles they had given the Governor. To
which they replyed they had concluded to take only One
Hundred

I hope that at another Interview you will all be more punctual and keep as near as you can to the time appointed. You are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me and the Commissioners from the other Governments to be detained so long in this Place at so great a distance from our homes.

a true Copy Examined
by Gw. Banyar D C of ye C^l

A Motion was made that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a Representation of the present state of the Colonies. Which was agreed to, and that the Gentlemen who were appointed to prepare & receive Plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies the 24 ult^o should be a Committee for this purpose.

The Plan for an Union of the Colonies was debated, but the Board came to no resolves upon it.

Adjourned to Nine oClock to morrow morning

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany
on Tuesday the 2^d July 1754 A M.

PRESENT

All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pensylvania, and Maryland.

After debates held on the Plan of an Union, it was moved

If they Board should proceed to form the plan of Union of the Colonies to be established by an Act of Parliament.

Whereupon it was moved to put the previous Question—which passed in the Negative.

The Question was then put whether the Board should proceed to form the Plan of a Union of the Colonies to be established by an act of parliament &c which passed in the Affirmative.

Adjourned to 3 aClock in the Afternoon.

At a meeting as aforesaid on Tuesday
the 2^d July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT

The Lieu^t Governor, & the four Gentlem^n of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners from the Several Governm^ts above mentioned.

The answer of the Six Nations to the General Speech made to them on Saturday last by his Honour the Lieu^t Governor of New York in his Majesties name and in the presence and behalf of the Several Governments on the Continent therein named was Read and is as follows.

Abraham a Sachem of the upper Castle of the Mohawks rose up and said.

BRETHEREN

You the Governor of New York and the Commissioners of the other Governments, are you ready to hear us.

They Governor replyed, they were all ready.

Then Hendrick Brother to the said Abraham and a Sachem of the said Castle, rose up, and spoke in behalf of the Six Nations as follows.

BRETHEREN

Just now you told us you were ready to hear us, hearken to me Brother Corlaer and Brothers of the other Governments.

Saturday last you told us that you came here by order of the Great King our Common Father, and in his name to renew the Antient Chain of Friendship, between this and the other Governments on the Continent and us the Six united Nations; and you said also that there were then present

Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut Rhode Island, Pensylvania, and Maryland: and that Virginia and Carolina desired to be considered also as present.

We rejoyce that by the Kings Orders We are all met here this day, and are glad to see each other Face to Face. We are very thankfull for the same and we look upon the Governors of South Carolina and Virginia as also present. (Gave a Belt)

BRETHREN

We thank you in the most hearty manner for your Condolence to us, We also condole all your Friends and Relations who have died since our last meeting here.

(Gave 3 Strings of Wampum)

BRETHEREN (holding the Chain Belt given by his Honour and the several Governments in his hand.)

We return you all our Gratefull acknowledgements for renewing and brightening the Covenant Chain. this Chain Belt is of very great Importance to our united Nations and all our Allies, We will therefore take it to Onondaga where our Council Fire always Burns and keep it so securely that neither thunder nor Lightening shall break it. There we will consult over it, And as we have lately added two links to it so we will use our Endeavours to add as many links more to it as lies in our power; And we hope when we Shew you this Belt again, we shall give you reason to rejoice at it, by your seeing the Vacancies in it filled up, (referring to his Honours explanation of it in the General Speech) in the mean time we desire that you will strengthen yourselves and bring as many into this Covenant Chain as you possibly can.

We do now Solemnly renew and Brighten the Covenant Chain with our Bretheren here present and all our other absent bretheren on the Continent.

BRETHEREN

As to the accounts you have heard of our living dispersed from each other it is very true.

We have several times endeavoured to draw off those our Bretheren who are Settled at Oswegatie but in vain, for the Governor of Canada is like a wicked deluding Spirit. however as you desire, we shall persist in our Endeavours.

You have asked us the Reason of our living in this dispersed manner—the reason is, your neglecting us for these three years past, (then taking a Stick and throwing it behind his Back) you have thus thrown us behind your back, and disregarded us, Whereas the French are a subtile and Vigilent People, ever using their utmost Endeavours to seduce and bring our People over to them.

(Gave a Belt)

BRETHEREN

As to the Incroachments of the French and what you have said to us on that Article in the behalf of the King our Father. As these matters were laid before us as of great Importance, so we have made a Strict Enquiry amongst all our People if any of them have either sold or given the French leave to Build the Forts you mention and we cannot find that either any Sale has been made, or leave has been given, but the French have gone thither without our Consent or Approbation nor ever mentioned it to us.

BRETHEREN

The Governor of Virginia and the Governor of Canada are both Quarrelling about lands which belong to us. And such a Quarrel as this may end in our destruction. They fight who shall have the Land. The Governors of Virginia and Pensylvania have made paths thro our Country to Trade and Build Houses without acquainting us with it, they should first have asked our Consent to build there as was done when Oswego was Built (Gave a Belt)

BRETHEREN

It is very true as you told us that the Clouds hang heavy over us, and tis not very pleasant to look up, but we give you this Belt (giving a Belt) to clear away all Clouds, that we may all live in bright sunshine and keep together in strict union and Friendship, then we shall become strong and nothing can hurt us.

BRETHEREN

This is the Antient place of Treaty where the Fire of Friendship always used to Burn, And 'tis now three Years since we have been called to any publick Treaty here. Tis true there are Commissioners here, but they have never invited us to Smoak with them (by which they mean the Commissioners had never invited them to any conference) But the Indians of Canada come frequently and smoak here which is for the sake of their Beaver but we hate them (meaning the French Indians) We have not as yet confirmed the Peace with them. Tis your fault Bretheren that we are not Strengthened by Conquest, for we would have gone and taken Crown point, but you hindered us, We had concluded to go and take it, but we were told it was too late and that the Ice would not bear us. Instead of this you burnt your own Fort at Saraghtoga and run away from it, which was a Shame and a Scandall to you. Look about your Country and see, you have no Fortifications about you no not even to this City, tis but one step from Canada hither and the French may easily com and turn you out of your Doors.

BRETHEREN You desired us to speak from the bottom of our Hearts and we shall do it, Look about you and see all these Houses full of Beaver and the Money is all gone to Canada, likewise Powder, Lead and Guns which the French now makes use of at Ohio.

BRETHREN

The Goods which go from hence to Oswego, go from thence to Ohio, which further enables the French to carry on their designs at the Ohio.

BRETHEREN You were desirous that we should open our minds and our hearts to you. Look at the French, they are Men, they are fortifying every where—but we are ashamed to say it, you are all like Woman bare and Open without any Fortifications.

Here Hendrick ended his Speech, his
Brother Abraham then rose up and said.

BRETHEREN

We would let you know what was our desire three Years ago when Col° Johnson laid down the Management of Indian Affairs, which gave us great uneasiness. the Governor then told us it was not in his power to continue him, but that he would consult with the Council at New York—that he was going over to England and promised to recommend our desire, that Col° Johnson should have the Management of Indian Affairs to the King, that the New Governor might have power to reinstate him.

We long waited in Expectation of this being done, but hearing no more of it, We Embrace this Opportunity of laying this Belt (and gave a Belt) before all our Brethren here present, and desire them that Coll° Johnson may be reinstated and have the management of Indian Affairs, for we all lived happy whilst they were under his Management, for we love him and he us, and he has always been our good and trusty Friend

BRETHEREN

I forgot Something, We think our Request about Coll° Johnson which Governor Clinton promised to carry to the King our Father is drowned in the Sea. The Fire here is burnt out, And (turning his Face to the New York Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany who were there present) desired them to take notice of what he said.

Which Answer from the Indians was debated Paragraph by Paragraph, and those Gentlemen who were Appointed a Committee to prepare a General Speech the 19 Ult° were now appointed to draw up a Reply. Adjourned till to Morrow Morning at 9 aClock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany
on Wednesday the 3d July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT

John Chambers & William Smith Esqrs of the Council of New York
Samuel Welles, John Chandlor and Oliver Partridge Esqrs
Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay.
Theodore Atkinson, and Richard Wibird Esqrs
Commissioners from New Hampshire
The Commissioners from Connecticutt
Martin Howard Junr Esqr a Commissioner from Rhode Island
All the Commissioners from Pennsylvania
Benja Tasker Junr Esqr one of the Commissioners from Maryland

A draught of the Reply proposed to be made to the Speech of the 6 nations of the 1st. Inst, which the Committee appointed yesterday afternoon had drawn up, was Read.

Mr. Chambers desired to carry it to his Honour the Lieut. Governor for his Opinion—which was agreed to.

Took their seats at the Board.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor
Joseph Murray and William Johnson Esqrs. of the Council of New York
Thomas Hutchinson & John Worthington Esqrs. Commissioners for Massachusetts Bay.
Meschech Weare & Henry Sherbourne Esqrs. Commissrs. for New Hampshire
Stephen Hopkins Esqr. one of the Commissioners from Rhode Island
Abraham Barnes Esqr. one of the Commissionersfrom Maryland.

His Honour laid before the Board certain matters which he proposed to be inserted in the Reply to be made to the 6 nations which together with the Draught from the Committee was read & Debated

The Commissioners from Pensylvania also laid before the Board an addition in behalf of their Province and proposed it to be added to the Reply—The Commissioners from Massachusets, New Hampshire and Connecticut proposed also some additions.

These several Draughts being read and considered, the following Reply to the Six nations was agreed upon by the Board.

BRETHREN

It gives us great pleasure to see you so ready to renew and brighten the Antient Chain of Friendship; We wish the farther extention of it, and shall not fail joining our utmost endeavours for that purpose.

BRETHEREN

We are very sorry that any neglect has been shewn to you, and we hope that nothing of that kind will happen hereafter, or any misunderstanding arise between you and any of his Majesties Governments. You are our Old and steady Friends. We assure you not one thought hav ever come into our minds of rejecting you;—Our Hearts have ever been warm towards you, and we now gladly meet and open our hearts to you. The Covenant is renewed, the Chain is Brightened, The Fire burns Clear, and we hope all things will be pleasant on both sides for the future. A Belt

[illegible] of this deficiency
such adjoining to it. That only on
but as it were a square piece, they thoug
described with sufficient certainty in the d
and gave to Mr Hardwick for it. The Deed was
and read, and the Indians acknowledged they ha
the consideration money for the same, and desired
might be Surveyed and a patent granted.

The Governor with the advice of the Counci
them, that the Reason why the Government had thoug
proper to direct an actual Survey of the Land by the
General, before it at the time of the purchase, was to pre
their being imposed upon in the Sales of their Lands by
giving Deeds for more or other Lands than they intended
sell. But as it appeared in this case they were sensible
well of the quantity as the situation of the Land they ha
sold, he would be make their Grant speedily grant the Land
upon the Deed they had given and order a Survey as soon
Mr Nardwick should make proper application.

The Interpreters are not to be employed on the purchase of Land.

Hendrick then addressing himself to the Govern
said, That in the purchasing their Lands of them, Persons
were often employed as Interpreters who understand very
little of their Language. That by this means Mistakes were
committed, and they sometimes injured. Wherefore they
desired the Province Interpreter, and no other might for the
future be employed on that Occasion.

The Governor Replies.

The Governor told them he would grant them
nothing but what was in his power to perform. That he
doubted if he could give such directions, but would consider
of it. The Indians declared their Satisfaction and the
Conference ended.

( ) Present

( ) At a Council held in the City
of Albany the third day of July 1754.
The Honble James De Lancey Esq. Lieut Gov. &c.
Mr Murray
Col. Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

The Interpreter to ask the Indians the Quantity they demand

The Commissioners having introduced with the
Interpreter Mr Hendrick directed the Interpreter to ask them
if they had agreed with the parties on the Sum they were
to be paid for the Lands six Miles back into the Woods, to
begin from the four Miles they had given the Governors. to
which they replyed they had concluded to take only one
Hundred

going up the Survey of two or three
Days had been depending three years
The Governor then told them That it was
his Will that George Klock, William Nellis, and the o
concerned with them, in all thirty five in Number, s
the Lands two Miles and a half [instead of four Miles]
the two Creeks, to begin at the back of the Patented Lands,
run that distance into the Woods. And Teady Magin and his
Associates to have the remaining one Mile and a half of the
four Miles, and six Miles from thence back into the Woods, the
breadth between the Creeks Garoge and Canada. The Indians
said they had agreed that Magin should have only six Mi
and that he must begin at the end of the two Miles and an ha
the Germans were to have.

The Parties on both sides then declared their
consent to the Agreement in Council, and in presence of the
Indians. His Honour then observed to the Council, That as
the Indians were pleased seeing that the Germans should have
Patents for the Lands they have given them and to give Deeds
to both parties before they left this place, which the Germans
could not regularly obtain without a Lycence, to purchase the
Land, he was willing to grant them a Lycence if the Board
advised it, whereupon four of the Council were present, and having
assented thereto, upon the question. The Council advised his Honour,
in order to remove effectually the uneasiness the Indians had
expressed concerning this matter, to grant a Lycence accordingly
upon the parties making proper application for it. The Board
being satisfied as to the ability of the persons to settle the Lands
according to the Terms of his Majesty's Instructions.

At a Council held in the City of
Albany the fourth day of July 1751.

Present. The Honble James De Lancey Esqr Lieut. Governor &c.
Mr. Murray
Col. Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith.

Proclamation to prevent persons buying the presents to be given to the Indians

The Board taking into consideration that the presents ordered by his Majesty, and likewise to be made on the part of this and the several Governments who have sent Commissioners to the general Interview here, are shortly to be distributed among the six Nations of Indians; and it being Represented that some of those people on their return to their Castles by being intoxicated with strong Liquors are—

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Mr. Edward Ward Capt. Lieut. Ensign deposed and made Oath to the following Particulars, That the French first appeared to them at Chanapinick Town about two Miles distant from the Fort the 17th. of April last, that they moved down within a small distance from the Fort, then landed their Canoes, and marched their Men in a regular manner a little better than Gun Shot of the Fort, That Le Mercier a French Officer sent by Contrecœur the Commandant in Chief of the French Troops, came with an Indian Interpreter called by the Mingoes the Oil and two Drums, one of which entered for Interpreter between Le Mercier and him; Le Mercier presently delivered him the Determinants by the Interpreter, looked at his Watch which was about two, and gave him an Hour to fix his Resolution telling

him

him he must come to the French Camp with his Determination in Writeing. He says that half an Hour of the time allowed him, he spent in Council with the Half King, who advised him to acquaint the French, he was no Officer & Cloaths & invested with Powers to answer their Demands, and required them to wait the Arrival of their Principal Commander, That at the time the Summons was delivered to him, the Half King received a Belt of Wampum & with the same Purpose. That he went accompanied with the Half King, Robt. Roberts, a Private Soldier, and John Davison and an Indian Interpreter, that the Half King might understand every word he spoke at the French Camp, That he there introduced himself to the Chief Commander Contrecoeur, and expressed himself agreeably to the above-mentioned

mentioned advice of the Half King, That the French Commander told him he should not wait for an Answer from any other person, and absolutely inhibited on his determining what to do, that Instant, or he should immediately take Possession of the Fort by Force; That the then observing the Number of the French which he judged to be about a Thousand, and considering his own weakness being but Thirty one Indians, whereof only Three were Soldiers, surrendered the Fort, with Liberty to obtained to march off with every thing belonging thereto by Twelve O'Clock the Next day, He says that night he was obliged to encamp within 500 yards of the Fort with a Party of the Six Nations who were in Company with him, That the French Commander sent for him to Supper, and ask'd many Questions concerning the English Governments, which he told he could give no Answer to, being unacquainted with such affairs; That the French Commander desired some of the Carpenters Tools, offering to buy any

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any money for them, to which he answered
he loved his King and Country too well
to part with any of them, and thereupon
they. That next morning he received
the Speech from the Half King to the
Governour, and proceeded with all his
men towards Redstone Creek where
he arrived in two Days, and from
thence marched to Wills Creek,
where he met with Col. Washington
and informed him of every Particu-
lar which had happened, That
Coll. Washington thought fit
to send back one of the Indians
to the Half King with a Speech
and to assure him of the Assis-
tance which was marching to him,
and by the advice of a Council
of War dispatched him an Express
to his Honour with the other In-
dian and an Interpreter, judging
him the most proper Person
having been appointed by the
Half King. He moreover adds that
four days before the Frenchmen

he

he had an Account of their comeing, and saw a Letter that John Davison wrote to Robt Callender a Indian Trader to confirm the truth that they were to be down by that time; That the Day following he sent a Copy of Davison's Letter to Captain Trent who was then at Wills's Creek, and went directly himself to his Lieutenant who lived Eight or Ten Miles up Monongahela from the Fort at a Place called Turtle Creek; it was late at Night when he got there, accompanied by Robert Hogeston, Thomas Davison, Shingle Ardill, and an Indian, and shewed him the Letter, of which he sent a Copy the next Day to his Captain, the Lieutenant told him he was well assured the French would be down but said what can we do in the affair? The Morning after he sent for the Half King, and one of his Chiefs named Serunea'tha who advised him to build a Hockade or Fort, that then he asked his

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Lieutenant if he would come down
to the Fort, to which he Answered
he had a Shilling to loose for a Penny
he should gain by his Commission
at that time, and that he had
Business which he could not
settle under six Days with his
Partner; That he thereupon
answer'd he would immediately
go himself and have the Blockade
Fort built, And that he would hold
out to the last Extremity before
it should be said that the English
had retreated like Cowards before
the French Forces Appeared, and
that he knowing the bad conse-
quences of his leaving it as the rest
had done would give the Indians
a Very indifferent Opinion of the
English ever after. He further
says he had no Orders from
either his Captain or Lieutenant
how to Proceed, and had the last
Gate of the Blockade Fortrecked
before the French appeared to him

That

That he was credibly Informed by an Englishman who attended the French Commandant, that they had 300 Wooden Canoes, and 60 Battoes and had four men to each Canoe and Battoe, that they had Also Eighteen Peices of Cannon, three of which were nine Pounders. That the Half Sauna Stormed greatly at the French at the Time they were Obliged to march out of the Fort, and told them it was he Order'd that Fort, and laid the first Log of it himself but the French paid no Regard to what he said.

Sworn to by the abovementioned Ward before.

The Governor in Council
the 7th May 1754.

Teste (signed) N. Walthoe C. Council

Copy of Indian Hart's
Deposition before the
Governor and Council
of Virginia, the
7th of May 1754.

Enclosure in Governor Dinwiddie's Letter of 3d July 1754.

in the L.S. of Fidde's Letter
of July 3d 1754.

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Which Answer from the Indians was debated Paragraph by Paragraph, and those Gentlemen who were Appointed a Committee to prepare a General Speech the 19 Ult° were now appointed to draw up a Reply.

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BRETHREN

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BRETHEREN

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Bretheren

We gladly understand you gave no countenance to the French who went to Ohio and have entered on your Lands, they are always your and our open or Secret Enemies; you did put this Land under the King our Father, he is now taking care to preserve it for you; for this end among others he has directed to meet you here, for although the Land is under the Kings Government, yet the property or power of selling it to any of his Majesties Subjects having authority from him we always consider as vested in you.

Bretheren

You say that the Governors of Virginia and Canada are fighting about Lands belonging to you, and that the Governors of Virginia and Pensylvania have opened new Roads and Built Houses at Ohio

What you say is a great surprise to us, we all know that for 5 years past, in the Face of all the Six nations, in open Day light, the French have been marching Troops into that country which we ever did and do still acknowledge to belong to you, tho' within Your Father the King of Great Britains Dominions, and under his Protection, and the French did publish every where their designs to Build Forts and drive away the English Traders: and they did carry them into Execution, by seizing the Traders and did last year actually build two Forts in that Country.

But we never heard Notwithstanding these open Hostalities of the French, that ever Virginia or Pensylvania sent one Soldier or Built one House for their or your Protection, till this present year.

It is fortunate that Mr. Weiser who transacts the publick business of Virginia and Pensylvania with your nations, and is one of your Council and knows these matters well, is now present. Hear the account he gives and that will set this matter in a true light.

Mr. Weiser was to say as follows.

" Brethren

The Road to Ohio is no new Road, it is an Old and frequented Road. The Shawanese and Delawares removed thither above thirty years ago from Pensylvania, ever since which that road has been travelled by our Traders at their Invitation, and always with safety, untill within these few Years that the French with their usual faithlessness sent armies there, threatened the Indians and obstructed our Trade with them.

The Governor of Virginia observing these Hostilities in time of full peace sent his Majesty an account of them. His Majesty was pleased to order his Governor to hold an Interview with the Six nations to consult measures with them how to put a stop to these French Proceedings, equally injurious to them as to his subjects; and that they might better know them, it was thought the interview might best be held at some place near the Country where these Hostile proceedings were carried on. His Majesty likewise ordered a present to the Six nations as a farther token of his affection for them. Accordingly Mr. Weiser in 1750 was sent to Onondaga by the Governor of Virginia and invited the Indians to come and treat at Fredericksburgh in that Province, and receive the Kings present, but could not prevail. The Governor of Virginia finding the French still continuing their Hostilities sent Commissioners in 1751 to the Indians at Ohio and delivered them the Kings present, and by a Belt of wampum proposed, that a strong House might be built near the Mouth of Mohongakela for their mutual protection. The Indians made answer, that they were well pleased with the proposal and would send that Belt to Onondaga, and join one of their own to it. Nothing was heard of this Belt; and the last year the French invaded the country of Ohio with a strong hand, whereupon the Indians residing there your Flesh and Blood, sent repeated messages to the Governor of Virginia, to send his Young Men to their assistance. But he being a Person of great forethought and prudence, still forebore to do it; and instead thereof sent two Messages by Mr. Andrew Montour to Onondaga,

for your advice how to act. It happened that no Council could be Called at either time. The Chiefs of Onondaga desired Mr. Montour to tell their Brother the Governor of Virginia, to act cautiously and let the French strike the first blow.

The French then coming nearer and nearer Tanacharisson (otherwise called the half King) was sent to them by the united nations at Ohio together with the Shawanese & Delawares, to forewarn them off their Land. In the mean time other Chiefs of these several nations came to Virginia and Pensylvania, and told us what they had agreed upon in Council; to wit, that they (the rest of their Chiefs,) should come to us and desire us to call our people from over the Allegheny Hills, to prevent Bloodshed between the English and French. But when these Indians returned, and found that the French paid no regard to their warning, but told them possitively that if they opposed their taking possession of that country, they would cut them off. They sent repeated Messages to the Govrs. of Pensylvania and Virginia to apprize them of their the Indians imediate danger, telling them they would find nothing but the ashes of their Houses and their Bones if they did not forthwith send warriors and build them a House to fly to. Having a late Example before their Eyes, in that the French had fallen upon their Bretheren the Twightwees on a sudden, and killed them in their Houses as well as some English who were then trading with them.

On this Melancholy Account the Governor of Virginia agreeable to the request of the Indians, sent people to Build a House at the Mouth of the Mohongahila, but before they had finished it, the French came down the River with a thousand Men and Eighteen Cannon and told the people who were building it, and were but Forty four in Number, that they must either fight or give up possession, which last they were obliged to do on Account of the Superior Force of the French.

BRETHEREN

This is the truth which we have thought proper to relate so particularly, that the prudent and Cautious Conduct of Virginia might be known to the Six Nations. As to pensylvania they have never sent a Warrior or built a Fort at Ohio. This Belt is given to confirm what is said and that you May remember what has been now related to you." A Belt

here Mr Weiser's relation ends.

BRETHEREN

You tell us we are open and defenceless. We are consulting how far it will be necessary to Fortifye our Frontiers. At the same time we expect you take care to keep your people from going over to the French.

We are able when united with You to resist any force the French and their allies can bring against us.

The following Paragraphs were to be spoken by the Govr of New York in his own Name—

BRETHEREN

You have told me, that this is the place of Treaty, that tis now three years ago since you were asked to smoak a pipe here That there are Commissioners, but they have never invited you to Smoak with them.

It was their Duty on their Appointment to acquaint you with it and to invite you to smoak with them and to rekindle the Fire which was then almost extinguished, and if they had done it earlier and before I sent them Directions it would have been very agreeable to me.

BRETHEREN

You say the Houses here are full of Beaver This is a trading place and the Merchants have a right to Traffick for Beaver, or other Skins, which they sometimes pay for in Goods and sometimes in money. But as to what you say about Guns, and powder being sold to the French: I have made all the Enquiry I could into this matter and am Assured you are misinformed, for that neither Guns nor Powder are sold by any persons here to the French.

BRETHEREN

You tell me that whilst Coll° Johnson had the Management of Indian Affairs you all lived Happy; that you loved him and he you, and that he has always been your good and trusty Friend. I am very sensible you had good reason to look upon him in this Light, and fully convinced that he is still your Friend. But as this is the place where the Antient Fire was kindled which was nearly burnt out, and as Coll° Johnson for some Reason declined the management of Indian Affairs, it was thought proper to rekindle the Fire here by appointing Commissioners, whom I shall direct to receive and consult with you, upon all Business that may concern our Mutual Interests, and I expect that you will for the future, apply to them according to the Custom of Your forefathers, to tell you News, and in return to receive from them what shall be thought necessary to be imparted to You. And I will give them directions that they treat you with the Affection due to you as Bretheren. I will make tryall of them another year and if you do not meet with the kind Treatment you have aright to expect, complain to this Government and effectual Measures shall be taken for your Satisfaction. Gave a Belt

The following was to be spoke by Mr Kellogg Interpreter from Massachusetts Bay.

BRETHEREN

We have agreed to tell all News and take Council together. We cannot part till we have told you the News from New England tho' at a considerable distance from you. The French have the same bad designs there as well as at Ohio; They are very fond to get Kennybeck River, We have News of their beginning a Fort at the head of that river; A priest of theirs has built a House a great way down that River; Governor Shirley has raised 800 Men and is gone down to drive them away and to Build an English Fort at the head or far up the said River Kennybec—We have News also that the French are building a Fort up Connecticut River Northward of Cowass; The Governor of New Hampshire has now sent a Company of Men up that River to enquire into that Fact, and if true to drive them imediately off. In another part of the Government of New Hampshire a Number of the St Francis° Indians have lately taken a family consisting of a Man and his Wife and three Children and carried them into Captivity from an out Settlement on Merrismack River, and this contrary to their solemn Engagement at a Treaty held with them.

We have also News that a Number of Indians had Murdered Twenty one English Fishermen at Canso and had carried their Scalps to Cape Britton where they were well received and tis said rewarded.

The Board then Adjourned till to Morrow Morning at 9 a Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court house at
Albany on Thursday the 4 July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT

The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, and
All the Commissioners for the Several Governments.

The plan for a Union of the Colonies was Debated, but nothing finally determined on.

Adjourned to 3 oclock this afternoon.

At a Meeting as above Thursday
the 4, July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT

All the Commissioners for the several Governments.

The plan for a Union was further considered but no resolves made thereupon.

The Board receiving a Message from his Honour the Lieu^t^. Governor of New York that the Indians were seated in order to speak to his Honour and the Commissioners.

The Board adjourned to 9 o'clock to Morrow Morning and waited upon the Governor.

upon the Survey of two or three
[illegible] had been depending three years.

The Governor then told them That it was
[illegible]ies that George Klock, William Nellis, and the other
[illegible]oncerned with them, in all thirty five in Number, should
the Lands two Miles and a half [instead of four Miles]
the two Creeks, to begin at the back of the Patented Lands, and
run that distance into the Woods. And Teady Magin and his
Associates to have the remaining one Mile and a half of these
four Miles, and six Miles from thence back into the Woods, the whole
breadth between the Creeks Canaroge and Canada Creek. The Indians
said they had agreed that Magin should have only two Miles
and that he must begin at the end of the two Miles and an half
the Germans were to have.

The Parties on both sides then declared their
consent to this Agreement at the Council, and in presence of the
Indians. His Honour then observed to the Council, That as
the Indians were very desirous that the Germans should have
Patents for the Lands they have given them and to give Deeds
to both parties before they left Fort Johnson, which the Germans
could not regularly obtain without a Licence, to purchase the
Land, he was willing to grant them a Licence, if the Board
advised it, although only four of the Council were present, and having
desired their opinion thereupon — The Council advised his Honour,
in order to remove effectually the uneasiness the Indians had
expressed concerning this matter, to grant a Licence accordingly
upon the parties making proper application for it. The Board
being satisfied as to the ability of the persons to settle the Lands
according to the Terms of his Majesty's Instructions.

At a Council held in the City of
Albany the fourth day of July 1734.

Present. The Hono.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieu.t Governor &c.
M.r Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith.

Proclamation to prevent persons buying the presents given to the Indians

The Board taking into consideration that the presents ordered by his Majesty, and those to be made on the part of this, and the several Governments who have sent Commissioners to the General Interview here, are shortly to be distributed among the Six Nations of Indians; and it being represented that some of those people on their return to their Castles, by being intoxicated with strong Liquors are —

[illegible] Signe recive on such Occasion[illegible]
tions, advised his Honour to issue a [illegible]
the same: And thereupon a Proclamation
was read and signed by his Honour with the
Council.

Petition of Klock and others to purchase Land of the Indians

The Petition of George Klock and Wm
on behalf of themselves and others praying a Lycence
purchase in his Majesty's Name of the native Indians
lors thereof, a certain Tract of Land situate lying and
in the County of Albany, on the north side of the Mohe
River, between two Creeks there, the one called Yaroq
and the other Canaiharon or Canada Creek, Beginning
back or Northerly bounds of the patented Lands thereon
said River, formerly granted to Francis Harrison John
Haskell, John Spratt and others, but now belonging partly
the Petitioners and others; and extending from thence into
the Woods two Miles and an half, the whole breadth between
the said two Creeks, containing by computation about
twelve thousand Acres, in order to enable the petitioners
and their Associates (viz all thirty five in Number) to obt
his Majestys Letters Patent for the same. — Was presente
at the board and read. and the Council advised his Honor
to grant the petitioners a Lycence to purchase the said Lands
accordingly.

granted.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the fifth day of July 1754.

Present

The Hono.ble James Delancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.a

M.r Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith.

Petition of the Indians of Stockbridge praying a Release to certain persons who have purchased some of their Lands without having the Lycence for it.

On Reading a Petition dated the 27th day of June last, signed by six Housatannuck or Stockbridge Indians, setting forth that they are natives of this province, and that their Ancestors were native owners of some of the Lands on and about Housanic River, which the petitioners imagine they have a right to, neither their Fathers or they ever having received any consideration for a considerable quantities of those Lands, altho' some of it is possessed by the white people, all Surveyed, and so far the whole taken from them: and therefore praying Redress.

Leave to be served that Mr Klock may be heard by his Council.

It is ordered by his Honour with the advice of the Council that the petitioners do serve Copies of this said petition together with the Certificate wrote thereupon signed by five.

At a meeting in the Court House at
Albany on Fryday the 5 July 1754 A. M.

PRESENT

All the Commissioners from the Several Governments

The Rejoinder of the Six nations spoke yesterday afternoon was read to the Board and was ordered to be minuted as follows.

(The following speech is chiefly a Rejoinder to the
Reply made to the Six nations on the 3d. Inst)

BROTHER of New York and
BRETHEREN of the Several Governments.

We on our side are equally as much rejoiced as you have expressed yourselves on the renewing and brightening the Antient Covenant chain between all his Majesties Governments on the Continent and us of the Six united Nations.

As to what the Governor of New York told us Yesterday relating to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany—We are much obliged to him for his promise to direct them to take due Notice of us for the future—That he will try them for one year longer, and for giving us leave to acquaint this Government, if they do not treat us as Bretheren

BRETHEREN We have told the Governor of New York how Colo Johnson has beheaved to us and our Opinion of him, And the danger we thought ourselves in by his leaving off the Management of Indian Affairs—if he fail us we die—however we agree to what the Governor has proposed to us—he is Master of all to do what he pleases, And we Submit the whole affair to him.

(Gave a Belt)

BRETHEREN

We are very thankfull to the King our Father for ordering Commissioners from so many Governments to meet here, in order to enquire into all matters relating to us and to put every thing upon a right footing. We rejoice that we have opened our Hearts to each other and we return the Governor and all the Commissioners from the several Governments our thanks for the same.

BRETHEREN

Sometime ago the King our Father sent a present to the Governor of Virginia, who sent a Messenger to the Six Nations that we should come down to Virginia and receive it, but we could not come; We have since been informed that the present was sent to Ohio. (the Speaker then proceeded to repeat the Substance of what was said to them Yesterday on the part of the Governmts of Virginia and Pensylvania by their Interpreter Mr Weiser.)

We allow that the Road from Pensylvania to Ohio is no new Road but has been travelled these 30 years by the Traders

We thank the Governor of Virginia for assisting the Indians at Ohio who are our Relations and Allies, And we approve of the Governor of Pensylvania's not having hitherto intermeddled in this affair. He is a wise and prudent man and will know his own time.

We return the Governor of New York and all the other Governments our most hearty thanks (here the Speaker made bows to his Honor and all the Commissioners) for the promise of protection given us of our Lands and the Acknowledgment that the right of selling it is in us. (Gave a Belt)

BRETHEREN

We put you in mind in our former Speech of the defenceless state of your Frontiers particularly of this City, of Schenectady and of the Country of the Five Nations.

You told us Yesterday you were consulting about securing both yourselves and us—We beg you will resolve upon something Speedily—You are not safe from danger one day—The French have

their Hatchet in their hands both at Ohio and in two places in New England—We dont know but this very Night they may attack us. One of the principal reasons why we desire you will be speedy in these matters is, that since Coll° Johnson has been in this City, there has been a French Indian at his House, who took measure of the Wall round it, and made very narrow Observations on every thing there abouts. We think (Coll° Johnson) in very great danger, because the French will take more than Ordinary pains either to kill him or take him prisoner, upon Account of his great Interest among us, and being also one of the Five Nations (Coll° Johnson is one of their Sachems.) Upon this they give 4 Strings of Wampum.

The Board then proceeded to consider the Plan for a Union but did not go thro' with it.

Adjourned to 9 oClock to Morrow Morning.

The Board having ordered the foregoing Rejoinder of the Six Nations to be only so far recorded in their proceedings, the remainder of their rejoinder is supplyed as follows, from the Records of Indian Affairs; that these proceedings of the Congress may compleat all that passed at the publick Conference with the Indians.

BRETHEREN

There is an Affair about which our Hearts tremble and our minds are deeply concerned; this is the Selling of Rum in our Castles. It destroys many both of our Old and Young people.—We request of all the Governments here present, that it may be forbidden to carry any of it amongst the Five Nations.

BRETHEREN We are in great Fears about this Rum, it may cause Murder on both sides. We dont want it to be forbid to be Sold us in Albany, but that none may be brought to our Castiles.

The Cayougas now declare in their own name, that they will not allow any Rum tó be brought up their River, and those who do must take the Consequences.

BRETHEREN We the Mohawks of both Castles have also one request to make, which is that the people who are settled round about us, may not be Suffered to sell our People Rum; it keeps them all poor, makes them Idle and Wicked, and if they have any Money or Goods they lay it all out in Rum, it destroys Virtue and the progress of Religion amongst us. (the lower Castle of the Mohawks have a Chapel and an English Missionary belonging to it) We have a friendly request to make to the Governor and all the Commissioners here present — that they will help us to Build a Church at Cannojohery and that we may have a Bell in it, which together with the putting a stop to the Selling of Rum, will tend to make us Religious and lead better lives than we do now

BRETHEREN

We have now fully opened our hearts to you, except about the Land belonging to the Connojohery's which carried us to go down to New York last Year. The Governor knows what our Complaint is, and we now desire to know when that affair will be settled, as it was promised that Satisfaction should be given us on that Article.

Here Hendrick ended his Speech.

Mr Penn one of the Commissioners from Pensylvania declared that himself in Conjunction with the other Commissioners of that Government were about purchasing from the Six Nations a Tract of Land within the Boundaries of the said Government below the Latitude 42—and the Indians also then published their Intention of making the said Sale at the Commissioners Lodgings. The Governor spoke to the Indians and told them.

That as to what they had said about Rum, he would give them an answer to morrow Morning, that he had received a present for them from the King their Father, and another from this Government which he would give to them to Morrow Morning, when he would also give them an answer to those other particulars which require one. As I have given you Satisfaction with respect to one of your Complaints

about your Lands and that you have consented that an Enquiry into any other shall be deferred untill I arrive at New York, I shall not now say any thing further to you on that affair.

Extracted from the Records of Indian Affairs By PETER WRAXALL Secretary

At a Meeting held in the Court House at Albany
on Saturday the 6 July 1754 A. M

PRESENT

All the Commissioners for Massachusetts Bay.
William Pitkin & Roger Wolcott } Esqrs Commissioners for Connecticut
The Commissioners for Rhode Island.
John Penn, Isaac Norris & Benja Franklin ..... } Esqrs Commissioners for Pensylvania
The Commissioners for Maryland.

His Honour the Lieut Governor sent to the Board the Speech he proposes to make to the River Indians which the Board agreed to with a small addition which was sent in writing to his Honour.

The Board having been informed by Mr Peters "That the Lieut Governor of New York sent for "him last night and told him his Provisions were expended and he could no longer maintain the "Indians and Expected the Commissioners would maintain them, and gave him the List of what had "been allowed p Day to the Five Nations exclusive of the River Indians."

The Board hereupon Resolved.

That they would take the charge of supporting the Indians upon themselves.

Meseck Weare and Henry Sherbourne Esqrs Commissioners from New Hampshire took their Seats.

The Committee appointed the 1st Inst. to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies with relation to the French, delivered the same to the Board, which was read and ordered to lye upon the Table for the Consideration of the Commissioners.

The Secretary presented to the Board a Draught of the Speech which his honour proposed to deliver to the Six Nations this Afternoon—And also the following Message from his Honour "That the "Board would please to send him any Alterations or Additions which they might think proper to be "made to the said draught—"That his honour intended when he made the Speech to read to them "the Act of the Genl Assembly of New York concerning the Sale of Rum to the Indians, And that "he also recommended the request of the upper Castle of the Mohawks for a Church to the Board."

The Secretary also brought back his Honours Approbation to the small Addition proposed to be made to the Speech intended to be made to River Indians, which Speech is as follows.

"BRETHEREN

I have sent for you here to give you fresh Assureances of the Great King your Fathers protection, and that we might with the Commissioners whom you now see Assembled from the Governments of Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticutt, Rhode Island, Pensylvania, and Maryland, Strengthen and brighten the Covenant Chain.

We are glad to see you at this your old Meeting place and we do now in his Majesties name and in behalf of all his Colonies renew the Antient Covenant Chain of Friendship, that it may be Stronger and brighter than ever, which we recommend to you to preserve Clean and free from Rust, by a peaceable and Affectionate beheaviour to all your Bretheren and especially to those who live near you, and you may then with Confidence rely on the favour of this and all his Majesties Governments.

As a proof of the King your Fathers tender regard to you I shall deliver you a present he has sent over for you, consisting of such necessaries as you may want. And the Commissioners from each of the

Governments have contributed towards a present for you also, All which presents shall be here ready for you in the Afternoon.

Elisha Williams Esqr a Commiss^{r} for Connecticutt took his Seat

On a motion made and Seconded That a message be sent to his Honour the Lieu^{t} Governor of New York relateing to the answer he proposes to make to the Six Nations; Mr Hutchinson and Mr Franklin were appointed to prepare the same.

Theodore Atkinson & Richard Wibird..... } Esq^{rs} Commissioners for New Hampshire

took their Seats as did also Richard Peters Esqr one of Commiss^{rs} for Pensylvania.

Mr Hutchinson reported the following Message.

"May it please your Honour.

The Commissioners from the Several Governments now met at Albany, observe that in the Speech your honour proposes to make this day to the Indians of the Six Nations, and which you have caused to be Communicated to the Board by their Secretary, no Notice is taken of the Complaints of the said Indians relating to their Lands. The Complaint seems by the Letter from the Right Hono^{ble} the Lords of Trade, which your Honour has laid before the board, to have been the Principal Occasion of this unusual and expensive Meeting of Commissioners from so many Colonies, And it appears by the last Answer from the Indians that their uneasiness still remains.

The Commissioners therefore think it incumbent on them to pray your Honour that they may be acquainted with the Particulars of the Complaint, and that they may have an Opportunity of consulting with your Honour proper Measures for removing the causes thereof."

Which was read and unanimously agreed to, and it was thereupon Ordered that Mr Welles and Mr Pitkin wait upon his Honour the Lieu^{t} Governor of New Yorke with the same.

Adjourned to 3 oClock this Afternoon.

At a Meeting &c on Saturday the
6th July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT

All the Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay
All the Commissioners from New Hampshire
The Commissioners from Connecticutt
Stephen Hopkins Esqr one of the Commissioners from Rhode Island

Mr Welles reported to the Board, that he and Mr Pitkin had delivered the Message they were appointed in the Morning to deliver to his Honour the Lieu^{t} Governor of New York.

The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York
Martin Howard Junr Benj^{a} Franklin and
Abraham Barnes Esq^{rs} } took their Seats.

Mr Murray delivered at the Board, His Honour the Lieu^{t} Governor's Answer in writing to the Message delivered to his Honour in the Morning by Mr Welles and Mr Pitkin which was read and is as follows

GENTLEMEN

In answer to your Message to me of this Day I acquaint you, that Yesterday I had the Sachems of the Connajohery Castle before me in Council, to conclude the matter in Controversey between some Germans and one Teady Magin, relating to an Indian Purchase, that had occasioned the greatest uneasiness among the Indians of that Castle, which after two Meetings was then formerly and finally settled to the Satisfaction of all parties.

...ay receive on such Occasion...
...ations, advised his Honour to ...
the same: And thereupon a Proclamation
was read and signed by his Honour with the
Council.

...of Block
...ills to pur-
...Land of the
...ians —

The Petition of George Klock and Wm...
on behalf of themselves and others praying a Lease
purchase in his Majesty's Name of the native Indians
...ons thereof, a certain Tract of Land situate lying and
in the County of Albany, on the north side of the Mohawk
River, between two Creeks there, the one called Yaroga
and the other Caioharon or Canada Creek, Beginning at
back or Northerly bounds of the granted Lands thereon
said River, formerly granted to Francis Harrison John
Haskell, John Spratt, and others but now belonging partly to
the Petitioners and others, and extending from thence into
the Woods two Miles and an half, the whole breadth between
the said two Creeks, containing by Computation about
twelve thousand Acres, in order to enable the petitioners
and ...associates (who all thirty five in Number) to obtain
his Majesty's Letters Patent for the same — Was presented
...granted. to the Board and read. Whereupon Council advised his Honour
to grant the petitioners a Lease to purchase the said Lands
accordingly.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the fifth day of July 1734.

Present

The Hono. James DeLancey Esq. Lieut. Gov. &c.
Wm. Murray
Col. Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith.

...Petition of the Indians
...to the Board
...who have granted
...some of the Lands
...without having the
...for it.

On Reading a Petition dated the 29th day of June last, signed by six Housatannuck or Stockbridge Indians, setting forth that they are natives of this province, and that their Ancestors were native owners of some of the Lands on and about Hudson's River, which the petitioners imagine they have a right to, neither their Fathers or they ever having received any consideration for a considerable quantity of those Lands, altho' some of it is possessed by the white people, all Surveyed, and so far the whole taken from them: and therefore praying the direction...

...Order made thereupon that the Petitioners make their Claims by the Agent.

It is ordered by his Honour with the advice of the Council that the petitioners do serve Copies of their said petition — together with the Certificate wrote thereupon signed by

five.

[illegible] Resident that such Deeds
may be executed before his Honour in Council.

The Connojoharry Indians were introduced by the Interpreter

And six of the said Indians Viz[t] Henry Peterson, William Darious, Nicus Jacob, Paulus John Jacob, and Henry Rott, signed and sealed a Deed to his Majesty his Heirs and Successors for the Lands mentioned in the Petition of George Klock and William Nellis read and granted in Council yesterday, for the consideration of Eight Pounds.

And it being suggested on the part of Teadaghkarighton alias Hagin and his associates, that the six Miles the Indians had agreed to sell to the said Hagin would not probably contain the full quantity he was enabled to purchase by the Licence granted to him. The Indians were asked if they would sell him one Mile more, to which they agreed for the further consideration of thirty pieces of eight or twelve pounds, and thereupon the six Indians above mentioned, also signed a Deed dated this day to his Majesty, for a Tract of Land, Beginning at the back or North easterly bounds of the Lands described in the Deed first above mentioned, and extending from thence seven Miles into the Woods being in breadth the whole distance between the two Creeks, the one called Canaghsaraga Creek, and the other Canaharon or Canada Creek, containing by computation about thirty two thousand acres.

The Indians to sell one Mile more to Hagin

Hendrick in the Speech he made on the 11th Instant in behalf of all the said Nations, having mentioned the complaints the Connojoharries made last year to New York about their Lands, and desired to know whether that affair would be settled as it was promised that Satisfaction should be given them in that article. His Honour told them.

The Governor answers the complaints the Indians made to Governor Clinton about their Lands

That he did not hear of those Complaints until he came now to this place, being on the Circuit when they were last year in New York and laid them before Governor Clinton.

That the first day he met them here in Council he desired them to open their hearts, and therefore expected they would then have mentioned those matters. That he will examine and consider of those complaints in Council when he arrives at New York, and let them know what may be determined upon, and will do them all the Justice in his Power.

Hendrick said: They begg'd nothing of that kind might happen for the future, and that no Mistakes might be made by Persons taking up more Land than they should sell to them or agree for.

The Governor replied.

That.

[illegible] had imposed upon or Defrauded in the
The Indians then declared th[illegible]
his Honour's promise and returned them the[illegible]

At a Council held in the
Albany the Sixth day of July 1
Present The Hon[ble] James De Lancey Esq[r] Lieut[t] Gov[r]
M[r] Murray
Col[o] Johnson
M[r] Chambers
M[r] Smith

His Honour communicated to the Board a Message received in the Forenoon from the Commissioners of the several Governments now Assembled at this City which was Read and is as follows.

May it please your Honour.

The Commissioners from the several Governments now met at Albany, observe that in the Speech which your Honour proposes to make this day to the Indians of the six Nations, and which you have caused to be communicated to the Board by their Secretary, no mention is made of the complaints of the said Indians relating to their Lands.

This complaint arises by the Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade which your Honour has laid before the Board to have been the principal occasion of this unusual and expensive meeting of Commissioners from so many Colonies. And it appears by the last Answer from the Indians, that the uneasiness still remains. The Commissioners therefore think it incumbent on them to acquaint your Honour that they may be acquainted with the particulars of the complaint, and that they may have an opportunity of consulting with your Honour proper measures for the removing the cause thereof.

Albany 6th July 1754.

By Order of Commissioners &c.

Ordered that W Wells and R. R. Livingston wait on his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York with the aforegoing Message.

Attest (Ellis Wilmot) Secry.

Whereupon His Honour with the advice of the Council made the following Answer to the Commissioners.

Gentlemen

In answer to your Message of this day to me I acquaint you, that yesterday I had the Sachems of the Canajoharey —

complaints have been [illegible]
composed upon or Defrauded in the [illegible]
The Indians then declared that
his Honour's promise and [illegible] returned them their

At a Council held in the
Albany the Sixth day of July 1754

Present The Honble James De Lancey Esqr Lieutt Govr
M.r Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Livingston

His Honour communicated to the Board a Message
received in the Forenoon from the Commissioners of the
several Governments now Assembled in this City, which
was Read and is as follows.

May it please your Honour.

The Commissioners from the several
Governments mentioned at Albany, observe that in the
Speech which your Honour proposes to make this day to the
Indians of the Six Nations, and which you have caused
to be communicated to the Board by their Secretary, no
Notice is taken of the complaints of the said Indians
relating to their Lands.

This complaint seems by the
Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade
which your Honour has laid before the Board to have been
the principal occasion of this unusual and expensive
meeting of Commissioners from so many Colonies. And
it appears by the last Answer from the Indians, that this
uneasiness still remains, the Commissioners therefore think
it incumbent on them to press your Honour that they may be
acquainted with the particulars of the complaint, and that
they may have an opportunity of consulting with your
Honour proper measures for the removing the cause thereof.

Albany 6.th July 1754.

Ord.a Meeting of Commissioners &c.a

Ordered that M.r Wells and M.r Pitkin wait on his Honor
the Lieutenant Governor of New York with the aforegoing
Message.

Attest. (Wm. Weissall) Secry.

To which his Honour with the advice of the Council
made the following Answer to the Commissioners.

Gentlemen

In Answer to your Message of this day to me I
must inform you, that yesterday I Read the Speeches of the
Commissioners —

Indian Purchases

among the Indians of the
and finally settled to the Satis
casion to observe to them that at their meeting on
I desired them to open their minds fully and that I then
they would have laid all their complaints before me. That
they had mentioned in their publick Speech on the 4th Instan
had not heard of any other particular Complaint, till I came to
Place, being abroad on the Circuit at the time they came to
New York; and I then promised as soon as I returned I would
look into them and do them all the Justice that I expected my
with which they declared themselves satisfied and thanked me

Albany 6th June 1753. James Delancey.

Governour's Answer to the Complaint of the Indians about Kayderosseraseras

The Lower Castle of the Mohawk Indians being introduced with the Interpreter to hear his Honour's Answer to their complaint about a large Tract of Land called Kayderosseraseras they alledge was Patented without being purchased from them His Honour said.

Brethren When you made this Complaint to me, I told you I was agreeable to Justice to hear both parties but desired to have present some of the Persons who claim that Land, and live on it, or near it. They brought me a Deed given about fifty years ago, or more, by five of the Lost Sachems of the Tribe of the Mohawks, in favour of Several Gentlemen of the Province, which you now see before you: And the Description of the Lands granted by the said Deed was read and explained. It was found to be the Bounds of the Original Patent, and then his Honour proceeded.

Brethren This Patent includes a very large Tract of Land and as it seems to me, more than the Indian Deed: some of the Parties interested are absent, who possibly may have other Indian Deeds: As the whole is granted by Patent under the King's Great Seal, I cannot intermeddle therein, otherwise than by laying the matter before the King your Father, which I will do immediately, and I doubt not his Majesty will order strict Justice to be done in the cause and whatever directions he shall be pleased to send me, I will acquaint you with, and send the Belt you have given me, that you may see I have not forgot my promise.

Their Speaker said.

There was an old Man present who did not remember that the Land was ever purchased of their Castle: That only two of the Tribes had signed the Deed, whereas it was Customary that

the

their people, should for verily [illegible]
would take a person three days to wa[illegible]

The Governor told them, he had ta[illegible]
what had been said on this Subject, which the[illegible]
upon it he would lay before the King. They
Satisfied and thanked their Brother the Governor.

Their Speaker then said, That they formerly gave
parcel of low Land to Hendrick Hansen, who besides th
taken up a great piece of Wood land.

The Governor told them. If they had mentioned
Matter when they spoke to him the other day, he would h
sent to M[r] Hansen for his papers; that it was now too late,
must be deferred to another time.

Their Speaker Replyed — That as their Brother
a new Governor they thought it necessary to mention thre
complaints, which appeared to them he took much to hea
on; if he would do as he had promised, they would take
as a proof of his Friendship for them. That when they
spoke to his Honour, they told him they had complaints
make, and that the Commissioners and all the five Natio
had complaints to lay before Him, all which his Honour
had answered. That every thing now was in a good Light
and they should go away well Satisfied, and were very thank
full.

Their Speaker then said — That when
M[r] Barclay, who was formerly their Minister, first came to
live at the Mohawks, he said he came by the Kings order to
live among them, and promised to continue there till his
death, on which they proposed to give him a piece of Ground
to build a house upon, with a Garden, and a small piece for
Mowing Ground. That they shewed him a little piece of Low
Land which he thought too small, and chose to have a larger
as he was determined to live and die amongst them. That they
gave him a large piece to keep as long as he should live there
but that he has left them, and is gone to New York without
telling them know the Reason of it. That they complained
of this Matter several times, and at last were told it should go
to the King but they have heard no more of it. That M[r] Barcla
now pretends to keep the Land contrary to Agreement, and they
beg his Honour will pay him for the House he had built upon
the Land, and that the Land might remain for the use of a
Minister for ever. That they make this request now because
there are so many Governments in this place, and it would
have the more weight, and they desire those Governments to
join and pay for the House.

I gave a Belt —

His.

Complaint of Land
granted by the
which the
they only
if this
same may be
apart for that purpo

attended to your Complaint
address, and am sorry no notice has
The Reason why Mr Barclay left you, was
Minister died, and that bring so many thousands
he wanted a Minister, who knowing him to be a good
strongly importuned him to go and live among them,
not refuse their request. I am pleased that you are sensible
Mr Barclay ought not to loose the money he laid out in bui
the House, and when I arrive at New York, I will inquire of
how much he expended, and I make no doubt as he is a good
he will accept the money and give up the Land. And if I can
get the money raised, the House and land shall remain for
the use of a Minister for ever. But I expect you will suffer the
People who are settled there by Mr Barclay's order, to continue
there without Molestation.

They said they had one thing more to mention,
which was. That they had a very great regard for Capt Butler
who formerly lived among them, and promised to do so always.
That they observe he is now in Albany, and they do not under
stand he is to return to the Seat, and they beg his Honour to let
him go thither again.

The Governor told them, The Company Lieut
Butler belonged to, was sent out of the Province, and he could
not post him there again, as he had no Men to command. That
he had a great Regard for him, and as he was an old Man and
was in his Infancy, he had given him Liberty to live at his house
and should be pleased whe it in his power to comply with their
Request. That he would keep the Belt they had given him
and return them an Answer as soon as he could.

At a Council held at the City of
Albany the [illegible] day of July 1754. Present
The Honble James De Lancey Esqr Lieut Govr &c.
Mr Harvey
Col. Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

His Honour being informed that some of the Board of
Commissioners were not fully satisfied with the Answer he
sent to their Message of the 6th Inst relating to the uneasiness
among the Indians about their Lands, but were of Opinion the
Indians should be spoke to again in this Subject to know if
they were satisfied, and that the Gentlemen who were of this
Opinion had grounded it upon Information that Several

of

The Speech of Gatchradodow

a Sachem of the Cayuga Nation to the Maryland Commissioners, before a large Audience of Gentlemen, and the Chiefs of the Six Nations, at an Entertainment in the City Hall at Albany, the 6: of July 1754:/

RECORDS COLONIAL OFFICE

Brethren, We are very glad to see you at the Fire now burning at Albany by Order of the great King, and We return you Our most hearty thanks for the large present you have brought Us from Our Brethren of Maryland, and We shall always retain a grateful remembrance of this Kindness of Our Brethren, for We are assured, that you must have been actuated by a true and sincere Love and Affection for Us to come from so distant a Country to this Interview with so large a Testimonial of your Regard for Us — You are now known to Us by the name of Tocarryhogon, a name We hope you and your Posterity will continue to be known by, as long as the Sun and Moon shall endure, by this Name We have admitted you of Our Council, and you are become One of Us; to confirm which, We present you this Belt —— gave a Belt —

As you are now become Our Brethren, and this is a time of Danger, by reason the Country on Ohio is made bloody, We hope you will have your Eyes and Ears open to every thing that may happen to be done or said, in which we may be concerned, and that you will give us early notice thereof, and We on Our parts will not fail to do the same by You, in confirmation of which promise, We give you this Belt —— gave a Belt ——

We present you with this String, as a Token of Brotherly Love to Tocarryhogon himself; We desire he will not look on this as a mere Ceremony, but believe that it proceeds from the bottom of Our Hearts —— gave a Belt —

about your Lands and that you have consented that an Enquiry into any other shall be deferred untill I arrive at New York, I shall not now say any thing further to you on that affair.

Extracted from the Records of Indian Affairs By PETER WRAXALL Secretary

At a Meeting held in the Court House at Albany
on Saturday the 6 July 1754 A. M

PRESENT

All the Commissioners for Massachusetts Bay.
William Pitkin & Roger Wolcott } Esqrs Commissioners for Connecticut
The Commissioners for Rhode Island.
John Penn, Isaac Norris & Benja Franklin ..... } Esqrs Commissioners for Pensylvania
The Commissioners for Maryland.

His Honour the Lieut Governor sent to the Board the Speech he proposes to make to the River Indians which the Board agreed to with a small addition which was sent in writing to his Honour.

The Board having been informed by Mr Peters "That the Lieut Governor of New York sent for "him last night and told him his Provisions were expended and he could no longer maintain the "Indians and Expected the Commissioners would maintain them, and gave him the List of what had "been allowed p Day to the Five Nations exclusive of the River Indians."

The Board hereupon Resolved.

That they would take the charge of supporting the Indians upon themselves.

Meseck Weare and Henry Sherbourne Esqrs Commissioners from New Hampshire took their Seats.

The Committee appointed the 1st Inst. to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies with relation to the French, delivered the same to the Board, which was read and ordered to lye upon the Table for the Consideration of the Commissioners.

The Secretary presented to the Board a Draught of the Speech which his honour proposed to deliver to the Six Nations this Afternoon—And also the following Message from his Honour "That the "Board would please to send him any Alterations or Additions which they might think proper to be "made to the said draught—"That his honour intended when he made the Speech to read to them "the Act of the Genl Assembly of New York concerning the Sale of Rum to the Indians, And that "he also recommended the request of the upper Castle of the Mohawks for a Church to the Board."

The Secretary also brought back his Honours Approbation to the small Addition proposed to be made to the Speech intended to be made to River Indians, which Speech is as follows.

"BRETHEREN

I have sent for you here to give you fresh Assureances of the Great King your Fathers protection, and that we might with the Commissioners whom you now see Assembled from the Governments of Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticutt, Rhode Island, Pensylvania, and Maryland, Strengthen and brighten the Covenant Chain.

We are glad to see you at this your old Meeting place and we do now in his Majesties name and in behalf of all his Colonies renew the Antient Covenant Chain of Friendship, that it may be Stronger and brighter than ever, which we recommend to you to preserve Clean and free from Rust, by a peaceable and Affectionate beheaviour to all your Bretheren and especially to those who live near you, and you may then with Confidence rely on the favour of this and all his Majesties Governments.

As a proof of the King your Fathers tender regard to you I shall deliver you a present he has sent over for you, consisting of such necessaries as you may want. And the Commissioners from each of the

Governments have contributed towards a present for you also, All which presents shall be here ready for you in the Afternoon.

Elisha Williams Esq[r] a Commiss[r] for Connecticutt took his Seat

On a motion made and Seconded That a message be sent to his Honour the Lieu[t] Governor of New York relateing to the answer he proposes to make to the Six Nations; M[r] Hutchinson and M[r] Franklin were appointed to prepare the same.

Theodore Atkinson & Richard Wibird..... } Esq[rs] Commissioners for New Hampshire

took their Seats as did also Richard Peters Esq[r] one of Commiss[rs] for Pensylvania.

M[r] Hutchinson reported the following Message.

"May it please your Honour.

The Commissioners from the Several Governments now met at Albany, observe that in the Speech your honour proposes to make this day to the Indians of the Six Nations, and which you have caused to be Communicated to the Board by their Secretary, no Notice is taken of the Complaints of the said Indians relating to their Lands. The Complaint seems by the Letter from the Right Hono[ble] the Lords of Trade, which your Honour has laid before the board, to have been the Principal Occasion of this unusual and expensive Meeting of Commissioners from so many Colonies, And it appears by the last Answer from the Indians that their uneasiness still remains.

The Commissioners therefore think it incumbent on them to pray your Honour that they may be acquainted with the Particulars of the Complaint, and that they may have an Opportunity of consulting with your Honour proper Measures for removing the causes thereof."

Which was read and unanimously agreed to, and it was thereupon Ordered that M[r] Welles and M[r] Pitkin wait upon his Honour the Lieu[t] Governor of New Yorke with the same.

Adjourned to 3 oClock this Afternoon.

At a Meeting &c on Saturday the
6th July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT

All the Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay
All the Commissioners from New Hampshire
The Commissioners from Connecticutt
Stephen Hopkins Esq[r] one of the Commissioners from Rhode Island

M[r] Welles reported to the Board, that he and M[r] Pitkin had delivered the Message they were appointed in the Morning to deliver to his Honour the Lieu[t] Governor of New York.

The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York
Martin Howard Jun[r] Benj[a] Franklin and
Abraham Barnes Esq[rs] } took their Seats.

M[r] Murray delivered at the Board, His Honour the Lieu[t] Governor's Answer in writing to the Message delivered to his Honour in the Morning by M[r] Welles and M[r] Pitkin which was read and is as follows

GENTLEMEN

In answer to your Message to me of this Day I acquaint you, that Yesterday I had the Sachems of the Connajohery Castle before me in Council, to conclude the matter in Controversey between some Germans and one Teady Magin; relating to an Indian Purchase, that had occasioned the greatest uneasiness among the Indians of that Castle, which after two Meetings was then formerly and finally settled to the Satisfaction of all parties.

Indians 52 July 6, 1754

To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blandt, Johannes Salayhowano, Johannes Kanadakoyon, Abraham Sastaghredohy, Sachems or Chiefs of the Mohocks Nation, Anneghnaacqua, Taraghoras, Johaghdaghquy Serry, alias Cornelius Kachnegindackon, Sachems or Chiefs of the Oneyde Nation, Otsinughyada alias Bunt (in behalf of himself and all the Sachems and Chiefs of the Onondage Nation) Scanuraty Tannaghdorus, Tokaaiyon, Raghnadodon, Sachems or Chiefs of the Cayuga Nation, Kahickdodon (alias Groote Younge) Takeghsatu, Tiyonenhokarau, Sachems or Chiefs of the Seneca Nation Sunbrughvachon, Sagochsidedagon, Tohashnavagaras, Orantakayon?, (alias John Nicon) Tistsaghton, Sachems or Chiefs of the Tuscarora Nation, for and in Consideration of the Sum of Four hundred pounds Current Money of the Province of New York the Receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge for and on behalf of themselves and all the Six Nations aforesaid and every of them Have Given granted bargained Sold Released and confirmed And by these presents Do and every of them Doth Give Grant Bargain sell Release and Confirm unto Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Proprietaries of the Province of Pensilvania their Heirs Successors and Assigns All the Lands lying within the said Province of Pensilvania bounded and limitted as follows namely, Beginning at the Nittochtinny or Blue Hills on the West Bank of Sasquehannah River and thence by the said River to a Mill above the Mouth of a certain Creek called Kayarondinhagh thence North West and by West as far as the said Province of Pensilvania extends to its Western Line or Boundary thence along the said Western Line to the South Line or Boundary of the said Province thence by the said South Line or Boundary to the South Side of the said Nittochtinny Hills thence by the South side of the said Hills along the said Hills to the Place of Beginning Together also with all the Rivers Creeks Islands Ways Waters Watercourses

Woods Underwoods Timbers and Trees Mountains Hills Mines Valleys
Minerals Quarries Rights Privileges Hereditaments and Appurtenan-
ces whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining and
all the Right Title Interest property Claim and Demand whatsoever
of the said Henry ~~Peters~~, Peters, Abraham Peters, Bland, Johannes
Salleyhowane, Johannes Kandakorjon, Abraham Sastaghredon,
Aneeghnaxqua, Taraghores, Tohaghdaghquy Sorry ~~Kachneghdaekon~~
Kachneghdaekon, Olsinughyada, Scanuraty, Sannaghdores,
Tokaaiyon, Kaghradodon, Kahichdodon, Takeghsatun
Tsyonenhokaraw, Suntrughwaekon, Sagochsidodagon, Tohashwangarus
Orontakayon, Titaghton or any of them or any Person or Persons of or
belonging to the Six Nations of Indians aforesaid To have and to
hold the said Lands Rivers Creeks Waters Islands Hereditaments and
Premisses hereby granted and released or mentioned or intended to be hereby
granted and Released and every part and parcel thereof with their and every
of their Appurtenances unto the said Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard
Penn their Heirs Successors and Assigns ~~for~~ To the only proper Use and Behoofe
of the said Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard Penn their Heirs Successors
and Assigns for Ever So that neither the said Henry Peters, Abraham Peters,
Bland, Johannas Salleyhowane, Johannes Kanadakorjon, Abraham Sastague-
dons, Aneegnaacqua, Taraghores, Tohaghdagh, qu: Sorry, Kachneghdaekon,
Olsinughyada, Scanuraty, Sannaghdores, Tokaaiyon, Kaghradodon,
Kahichdodon, Takeghsatu, Tsyonenhokaraw, Suntrughwaekon,
Sagochsidodagon Tohashwangarus, Orontakayon, Titaghton nor any
others of the said six Nations nor their or any of their Heirs Successors and
Assigns shall or may hereafter Claim Challenge or Demand any Right to the
said Lands Islands Rivers Creeks Waters Hereditaments and Premisses
hereby granted and Released but from the same shall be barred for ever by these
Presents and the said Chiefs do hereby Covenant and Declare that the Right to
the said Lands and Premisses is solely in them and their Nations and no

1754

Exemplification

of a Deed from ye

Six Nations of Indians

to

Thos & Richd Penn Esqrs

1754

To all to whom these Presents shall come

Greeting. Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blandt, Johannes Salyhorwano, Johannes Hiondakeyon, Abraham Kastaghreidehy, Sachems or Chiefs of the Mohock Nation, Unaghkaxqua, Taraghhorus, Ishaghdaghqay ferry alias Cornelius, Kachnathdacken Sachems or Chiefs of the Onondo Nation, Oshinaghqada alias Hunt, in behalf of himself and all the Sachems and Chiefs of the Onondago Nation) Scanawaty, Sannaghderus, Tokaaiyon, Kaghrondeden, Sachems or Chiefs of the Cayuga Nation, Kahickdeden, alias Grove Young) Takeghsahe, Teyenenhekarron Sachems or Chiefs of the Seneca Nation, Sastraghrnacken, Sagechsidondagen, Johashwangarus, Oronlakayon (alias John Hesen) Tistaghton Sachems or Chiefs of the Tuscarora Nation for and in Consideration of the Sum of Four hundred Pounds Current Money of the Province of New-York The Receipt whereof they do hereby Acknowledge for and on Behalf of themselves and all the six Nations aforesaid and every of them. Have given granted bargained sold released and confirmed And by these Presents do and every of them Doth give grant bargain sell release and confirm unto Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Proprietaries of the Province of Pensylvania their Heirs Successors and Assigns all the Lands lying within the said Province of Pensylvania bounded and limited as follows namely, Beginning at the Kittochtinny or Blue Hills on the West Bank of Susquehannah River and thence by the said River to a Hill above the Mouth of a certain Creek called Kayarondinhagh thence North West and by West as far as the said Province of Pensylvania extends to its Western Line or Boundary thence along the said Western Line to the South Line or Boundary of the said Province thence

thence by the said South Line or Boundary to the South side of the said Kittochtinny Hills thence by the South side of the said Hills along the said Hills to the place of Beginning Together also with all the Rivers Creeks Islands Ways Waters Water-Courses Woods Underwoods Timbers and Trees Mountains Hills Mines Vallies Minerals Quarries Rights Privileges Hereditaments and Appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining And all the Right Title Interest Property Claim and Demand whatsoever of the said Henry Peters Abraham Peters Bland Johannes Safsyhowane Johannes Kandakayon Abraham Sastagredeby Aneeghnaxqua Tarrogherus Tohaghdaghqua Jerry Kachnaghdackon Ossinaghyada Scanarady Tannaghtoreus Tekaaiyon Kaghradodon Kahickdoden Sakeghsahe Joyenenhoharon Sentroghwackon Sagorhsidodagon Tohashwangarus Orontakayon Tissaghton or any of them or any Person or Persons of or belonging to the six Nations of Indians aforesaid To have and to hold the said Lands Rivers Creeks Waters Islands Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted and released or mentioned or intended to be hereby granted and released and every part and parcell thereof with their and every of their Appurtenances unto the said Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard Penn their Heirs Successors and Assigns To the only proper Use and Behoof of the said Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard Penn their Heirs Successors and Assigns for ever. And that neither the said Henry Peters Abraham Peters Bland Johannes Safsyhowane Johannes Kandakayon Abraham Sastagredeby Aneeghnaxqua Tarrogherus Tohaghdaghqua Jerry Kachnaghdackon Ossinaghyada Scanarady Tannaghtoreus Tekaaiyon Kaghradodon Kahickdoden Sakeghsahe Joyenenhoharon Sentroghwackon Sagorhsidodagon Tohashwangarus Orontakayon

Tissaghton

Tiffinghten nor any others of the said six Nations nor their nor any of their Heirs Successors and Assigns shall or may hereafter Claim Challenge or demand any Right to the said Lands Islands Rivers Creeks Waters Hereditaments and Premisses hereby granted and released but from the same shall be barred for ever by these presents And the said Chiefs do hereby Covenant and Declare that the Right to the said Lands and Premisses is solely in them and their Nations and in no other Nation whatsoever And it is hereby mutually Covenanted and Agreed by and between the said Proprietaries in behalf of themselves their Successors and all the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania for ever of the one part And the said Chiefs in behalf of themselves their Nations and their Childrens Children for ever of the other part That notwithstanding any Sales of Lands which the Indians now make or hereafter shall make to the said Proprietaries or their Successors there shall ever Subsist and mutually be preserved between both the said Parties and their Children and Childrens Children to the latest Posterity the same Love Friendship and kind Treatment that hath all along Subsisted and does now Subsist between them. In Witness whereof the before named Sachems or Chiefs for themselves and in behalf of all the People of the Six Nations aforesaid have hereunto set their Hands and Seals at the City of Albany in the Province of New York the sixth day of July one thousand seven hundred and fifty four and in the twenty eighth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign George the Second of Great Britain France and Ireland King —

Sehasharonnus his mark (Seal)
(Seneca)

Ohwehiksano his mark (Seal)
alias John Hetsen
(Tuscarora)

Sejuqualiton his mark (Seal)
(Tuscarora)

Nathickelecken his mark (Seal)
(Onondaga)

Tahaghsighsote his mark (Seal)
(Seneca)

Tiyeenhoharonte his mark (Seal)
(Onondaga)

Tehaghshighsesey, alias Conradus his mark (Seal)
(Cayuga)

Nachneghdaoken his mark (Seal)
alias Prince
(Cayuga)

Ex.

Onnahquaeson (his mark) (Seal) (Tuscarora)

Sagochsideson (his mark) (Seal) (Tuscarora)

(Ossinsaghsade his mark) (Seal)
(Onnahquaeson) (Tuscarora)
(Sagochsideson) (Tuscarora)
(Chiefs of the Ouenagers)
(Men being present at the signing and sealing of this Writing)

Sinnowsky (his mark) (Seal) (Cayuga)

Saragh Hinus (his mark) (Seal) (Onnyde)

Thomas Penn (Seal)
and
Richard Penn (Seal)
By their Attorney
John Penn (Seal)
Richard Peters (Seal)

Sealed and Delivered (the Words [We stand by] wrote on a Erazure in the Tenth Line, and the Words [thence along the said Western Line] interlined between the Ninth & Eleventh Lines, and the Words [Hills] also wrote on a Erazure in the Ninth Line, being first done) And the Whole distinctly read and interpreted to the Indians in the Presence of us. Also before Executing, the Words [a little above] between the Ninth and Tenth Lines, and the Words [along the said Hills] between the Ninth and Eleventh Lines, were interlined at the Instance of the Indians

Isaac Norris / Wm. Franklin
David Mayer Register
Jam.s Logan
Wm. Alexander
Rob.t Strettell

Ja. Steel
Peter Groenendyck
Jno. Willing

Henry (his mark) Peters Seal (Mohawk)
Abraham (his mark) Peters (Seal) (Oneida)
Nicholas (Seal)
Johannes (his mark) Satsyshowane Seal (Mohawk)
Johannes (his mark) Kanalatego Seal (Onondago)
Abraham (his mark) Satsyshoodahy (Seal) (Mohawk)
Aneighnaxqua (his mark) (Seal) (Onyde)

Jannighdoras (his mark) (Seal) (Cayuga)

Johaaiyon (his mark) (Seal) (Cayuga)

Kaghradoton (his mark) (Seal) (Cayuga)

Onenhaiyeh Paulus
N Nicholas Peters his mark
N Laurens Senagaris his mark
N Mons Tegenondeke his mark
da Cornelius Tenakiom his mark
X William Tanaghgoras his mark
X Zacharias Tanaghwaycuil his mark

Pennsylvania ss

Be it Remembered that on the sixteenth day of
Ex. Bk
January 1755 Personally appeared Before me William Allen Esq. Chief Justice of the
Province of Pennsylvania Conrad Weiser who on his Solemn affirma-
tion did declare that he saw all the several Indians within named
Sign Seal and as their Voluntary Act Deliver the within written
Deed for the Use and Purpose therein mentioned And that he saw
Isaac Norris and the other Persons Sign their Names as Witnes-
thereunto And this Affirmant further saith that being appointed
Interpreter by and between the Government of Pennsylvania and the
Indians of the Six Nations he faithfully and distinctly interpreted and
explained to the Indians who Signed and Sealed the same all the several
parts of the said within written Deed to their full Satisfaction and
Contentment

Affirmed Before me
Wm. Allen (Seal) Recorded 3d. Febry. 1755

Albany ss

Whereas the within Deed was the day of the Date hereof produced
to us the Subscribers and Interpreted to us by Conrad Weiser in the
Indian Language and the Names and Marks of the Signers of it was
then carefully examined and the Execution thereof was attested to us
by Sahasheweingoris one of the Signers thereof We the Subscribers in
Consideration thereof and of Five Shillings to us in Hand paid do for
us selves and Children and Their Childrens Childrens and in behalf of
the Six Nations confirm ratify and hereby grant the said Deed and do
promise covenant and engage to and with Thomas Penn and
Richard Penn Esquires the present Proprietors of the Province of
Pennsylvania That neither We nor any by our Authority shall
all-

sale grant or convey to any other than the said Proprietaries Heirs and Assigns any Lands within the Limits of the said Province
Witness Hands and Seals this ninth day of July 1754

Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of Us
Isaac Norris Wm. Franklin
Richard Peters Tanacharison
Sam.l Blunston Jo Stevenson

Henry ⊢P. Peters (Seal)
Isaac Norris (Seal)
Tagashata X (Seal)
Abraham A Peters (Seal)
Scarouady (Seal)
Blanket (Seal)
Ancyhnasama his X (Seal)
Joshaghadaghi X any kay (Seal)
Saroothiah N Nicholas Peters (Seal)

Pennsylvania ss

Be it Remembered that on the Sixteenth day of January 1754 personally appeared Before me William Allen Esquire Chief Justice of the Province of Pennsylvania Conrad Weiser who on his Solemn Affirmation did declare that he saw all the several Indians within named Sign Seal and as their Voluntary Act deliver the Instrument of Writing endorsed on the within Deed as their Deed and for the Use and Purpose therein mentioned And that he saw Isaac Norris and the other Persons Sign their Names as Witnesses thereunto And this Affirmant further saith that being appointed Interpreter by and between the Government of Pennsylvania and the Indians of the Six Nations he faithfully and distinctly interpreted and explained to the Indians on the Signing and Sealing the same All the several parts of the said within Instrument to their full Satisfaction and Contentment

Affirmed before me
Wm. Allen (Seal) Recorded 3d Feby 1755

I Charles Brockden Recorder
of Deeds for the City and County of Philad.a do hereby
certify that the foregoing hereunto annexed
contained in six sides or three half sheets of Paper
is an Exemplification and true Copy of an Original
Deed remaining among the Records in my said
Office in Book H Vol.3. Page 392. 393. 394.
395 & 396 As witnesseth my Hand and Seal of
my said Office — C. Brockden. Recr.

attended to your Complaint
[illegible] and am sorry no notice
the reason why Mr Barclay left you, was
[illegible] died, and there being so many thousands
wanted a Minister, who knowing him to be a
strongly importuned him to go and live among them,
not refuse their request. I am pleased that you are sensible
Mr Barclay ought not to loose the money he laid out in building
the House, and when I arrive at Newyork, I will inquire of him
how much he expended, and I make no doubt as he is a good man
he will accept the money and give up the Land. And if I can
get the money raised, the House and land shall remain for the
use of a Minister for ever. But I expect you will suffer the
People who are settled there by Mr Barclay's order, to continue
there without Molestation.

They said they had one thing more to mention,
which was. That they had a very great regard for Capt Butler
who formerly lived among them, and promised to do so always.
That they observe he is now in Albany, and they do not under-
stand he is to return to the Seneca's and they beg his Honour to let
him go thither again.

The Governor told them, The Company Lieut
Butler belonged to, was sent out of the Province, and he could
not grant him there again, as he had no Power to command. That
he had a great Regard for him, and as he was an Old Man and
broken in his Knees, he had given him Liberty to live at his House
and should be pleased were it in his Power to comply with their
Request. That he would keep the Belt they had given him
and return them an Answer as soon as he could.

At a Council held at the City of
Albany the eighth day of July 1756 at Noon

Present
The Hono[ble] James De Lancey Esq[r] Lieut Gov[r]
Mr Harvey
Col[o] Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

His Honour being informed that some of the Board of
Commissioners were not fully satisfied with the Answer he
sent to their Message of the 6th Instant relating to the uneasiness
among the Indians about their Lands, but were of Opinion the
Indians should be spoke to again on this Subject to know if
they were satisfied, and that the Gentlemen who were of this
Opinion had grounded it upon an information that Several

of

the complaints they [illegible]
therefore desired a Committee of that
in Council, where he would examine the
six of the Gentlemen of that Board attending
his Honour sent for a Sachem of each Nation
with the Interpreter, were called in, and his
them.

Brethren of the Conojoharey Castle.

You remember that soon after I came
place you told me you were very uneasy concerning
difference which then Subsisted betwixt Seadyaga
some Governors respecting the purchase of some of your
and that this controversy has been since settled to the
satisfaction of all parties. And that as to the other comp
which you had made at New York, as I was absent at th
time, I told you that as soon as I returned thither, I would
examine into them, and do you all the Justice in my pow
You [illegible] will remember me and the Commissioners
present, whether you then declared you were satisfied wi
my promise and returned me thanks.

Hendrick said.

It was true they had made these
complaints, and that his Honour had told them howev
at that time which they spoke of them to Governor Clinton at New
York, and they trusted his Honour would do as he had
promised them — That the Conojoharies relied upon this
promise and were willing — That his Honour as the head of
all the government present, and they depended on him as
their own [illegible] that if [illegible] they should not receive
satisfaction as to their complaints, they would mention them
again to his Honour and all the Governors, and that if they found
after that, he could not redress them, they desired him to
take the Hatchet of all the other Governments — That as they
had spoken brotherly and friendly together, they hoped every
thing might end that so, and more especially as the French,
and four Indians were now in the place, should they be
informed of any difference between their Brethren and them
would laugh at them, and encourage them to [illegible] them.

His Honour told them they might expect to hear after he
had been at Albany what he had done in the matter, that it
was not only his own inclination, but the King had commanded
him to do them all the Justice he could. And so they
they returned his Honour and the Commissioners thanks and
withdrew.

I then took Occasion to observe to them, that at their Meeting on the 2d Inst. I desired them to open their Minds fully and that I expected they would then have laid all their Complaints before me. That as to what they had mentioned in their public Speech on the 4th Inst. I was not acquainted with any other particular Complaints, until I came to this place, being abroad on the Circuit at the time they made them at New York, and then I promised as soon as I returned thither, I would look into them, and do them all the Justice that lay in my Power, with which they declared themselves well Satisfied and thanked me.

JAMES DELANCEY

Albany 6th July 1754.

The Board being obliged to attend at the Interview of the Schaticook and River Indians.

Adjourned to Monday Morning at 9 aClock

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany
on Monday the 8 July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT

William Johnson, & William Smith } Esqrs Two of the Council of New York &

All the Commissioners

The Speech proposed by his Honour to be made to the Indians of the Six Nations having been again read to the Board, and the Complaint of the Indians relative to their Lands coming under their Consideration; The Board were Acquainted that Mr William Livingston and Mr William Alexander two of the Heirs or Devisies of Philip Livingston Esqr deceased the Proprietor or Patentee of the Lands, on which Canajohery Castle stands, had declared their Readiness to give up all rights to said Patent's or such parts as shall be thought necessary. It was ordered that sd Mr Livingston and Mr Alexander be informed that the Board desired to Speak with them.

Mr Livingston and Mr Alexander being present ihformed the Board that their Father was one among other Patentees of the Lands mentioned, That they were interested one eighth each of them in their Fathers right. The Circumstances of his Title they had made no Enquiry into, but were ready to make any Resignation which either Justice or the Publick Service required.

The Board being informed that his Honour the Lieut Governor desired a Gentleman from each Government might be appointed to be present with him in making Enquiry of the Indians of the Cannojohery Castle, how far they were satisfied respecting their Lands, Mr Peters and Mr Howard were appointed to wait on his honour and acquaint him that the Board agreed to the proposal. Accordingly

Mr Hutchinson was appointed for Massachusetts Bay
Colo Atkinson " " for New Hampshire
Colo Wolcott " " for Connecticut
Mr Hopkins " " for Rhode Island
Mr Norris " " for Pensylvania
Colo Tasker " " for Maryland

Joseph Murray and John Chambers Esqrs of the Council of New York took their seats.

His Honours draught of the Speech he proposes to make to the 6 Nations which was delivered to the Board the 6th Inst was read and after debate had thereon relative to the Sale of Rum amongst them, and the Connojohary's desire about a Church, some Alterations and Additions to it were agreed to be proposed to his Honour.

The Representation of the present state of the Colonies was again read through, but no final Resolution thereon agreed to.

The Answer of the Scaakticook and River Indians to the speech made them the 6th Inst. were read and are as follows.

The Speech of the Schaakticook Indians.

FATHER

We are glad that the Governor sees his Children now before him, We are small in Number but next time we hope we shall be more.

Your Honour may see that we are but young and unexperienced, our Antient people being almost all Dead, so that we have no Body to give us any advice but we will do as our fathers have done before us. Gave a Belt.

FATHER

This Belt came from our Forefathers and we will be true and faithfull, to the King as they were. Gave a Belt

They gave also to the Governor a small Bundle of Skins & desired that the Sale of Rum might be Stopped at Schaackticook and that if they want it, they will come and buy it at Albany.

The Speech of the River Indians.

FATHERS.

We are greatly rejoiced to see you all here. It is by the Will of Heaven that we are met here, and we thank you for this Opportunity of seeing you altogether as it is a long while since we have had such a one

FATHERS. Who sit present here We will just give you a short relation of the long Friendship which hath Subsisted between the white people of this Country and us. Our forefathers had a Castle on this River, as one of them walked out he saw something on the River, but was at loss to know what it was, he took it at first, for a great Fish, he ran into the Castle and gave Notice to the other Indians. Two of our forefathers went to see what it was, and found it a Vessel with Men in it. They immediately joined hands with the People in the Vessell and became Friends. They white people told them they should not come any further up the River at that time and said to them they would return back from whence they came and come again in a Years time. According to their promise they returned back in a Years time and came as far up the River as where the Old Fort stood, Our forefathers invited them a Shore and said to them, here we will give you a place, to make you a Town, it shall be from this place up to such a Stream (meaning where the Patroons Mill now Stands) and from the River back up to the Hill. Our Fore fathers told them tho' they were now a small People they would in time Multiply and fill up the Land, they had given them. After they were a Shoar sometime, Some other Indians who had not seen them before, loked feircely at them and Our Forefathers observing it & seeing the white People so few in Number, lest they should be destroyed took and Sheltered them under their Arms; but it turned out that those Indians did not desire to destroy them, but wished also to have the said White People for their Friends At this time which we have now spoken of, The white People were small, but we were very Numerous and strong. We defended them in that low state, but now the Case is altered. You are Numerous and strong we are few and Weak, Therefore we expect that you will Act by us in these Circumstances as we did by you in those we have just now related.

We view you now as a very large Tree which has taken deep Root in the Ground, whose Branches are spread very wide, We stand by the Body of this Tree and we look round to see if there be any who endeavour to hurt it, And if it should so happen that any are powerful enough to destroy it we are ready to fall with it. Gave a Belt

FATHERS

You see how early we made Friendship with You, We tied each other in a very strong Chain, that Chain has not yet been broken, We now clean and rub that Chain to make it Brighter and stronger, And we determine on our part that it never shall be broken, and we hope you will take care that neither you or any one else shall break it, And We are greatly rejoiced that Peace and Friendship have so long subsisted between us Gave a Belt

FATHERS

dont think strange at what we are about to say, We would say something respecting our Lands when the White People purchased from time to time of us, they said they only wanted to purchase the low Lands, they told us the Hilly Land was good for nothing and that it was full of Wood and Stones; But now We see People living all about the Hills and Woods altho' they have not purchased the Lands—When we enquire of the People who live on these Lands what right they have to them, they reply to us, that we are not to be regarded, and that these Lands belong to the King, but we were the first possessors of them, and when the King has paid us for them, then they may say they are his. Hunting now is grown very Scarce and we are not like to get our livings that way. Therefore we hope our Fathers will take care that We are paid for Our Lands that we may live.

Gave a Belt

Make a present of a bundle of Skins.

The Board then Adjourned to 3 o Clock this Afternoon.

At a Meeting &c Monday 8 July
1754. P. M.

PRESENT

All the Commissioners except Colo Atkinson, Mr Norris,
and the Commissioners for Maryland.

The Board proceeded in their Consideration upon the plan for a Union but did not go thro' with it.

The Speech proposed to be made to the 6 Nations was returned to the Board from his Honour with the Alterations and Additions proposed by the Board this Morning.

ORDERED

That the said Speech lay upon the Table till some further matters relating to it be agreed on by the Board.

The Committee Appointed in the Morning to be present with the Lieut Governor of New York at a Conferrence with the Connojahery Indians returned from the same and Reported as follows

That his Honour enquired of the Indians whether they had not expressed themselves Satisfied with the Measures he had taken concerning their Lands and the Promise that he would enquire further into the Affair when he came to New York. To which they replyed. That they were sensible his Honour was at Albany when they made their Complaints at New York last Year—that he had told them he had now left the Papers there, but would enquire into it when he came there—That they were willing to try one Year more and if matters were not made up by the Governor whom they looked upon as their Elder Brother, but neglected as they used to be, they would send to all their other Brothers (pointing to the Commissioners) for their Assistance—And that they agreed to this the rather as there were French Indians in Town and they did not think it convenient to have any Difference before them. Upon which his Honour again assured them he would enquire into their affairs in order to their being Satisfied especially as he had the Kings orders for it.

The Board receiving a Message from his Honour that the Sachems of the Six Nations were attending to be spoke to.

The Board adjourned to 9 oClock to Morrow Morning and waited upon the Governor.

day of July 1754.

The Honble James De Lancey Esqr
Mr Murray
Col. Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

His Honour communicated to the Council a Draft of the Speech proposed to be made to the Schachkook and River Indians prepared by the Board of Commissioners now met in this City to which his Honour proposed to make an Addition.

The Paragraph as it stands in the Draft is to the Effect following viz.t

Children "You complain that some of the people of this Province are in possession of your Lands which you never sold. This is a Complaint who affects persons who live at a distance I have ordered Notice to be given them, that upon enquiry into the affair, it shall appear that you have been injured. I will endeavour to get you Satisfied."

The addition proposed to this Paragraph by his Honour is in these words viz.t

But I shall observe to you that the constant method of granting Lands in this Province, is and has been by Licence from the Governor to purchase from the Indians, and upon the Purchase being returned before him in Council, he with their advice orders a Patent, and that most of those Lands concerning which you complain, were granted when you were Children, some before any of you were born.

Which addition the Council approved.

Agreed to by the Council

At a Council held in the City of Albany the third day of July 1754.

Present The Honble James De Lancey Esqr Lieut Govr &c.
Mr Murray
Col. Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

Report of the Commrs of the Com. for adjusting the Limits between this Province & Massachusetts Government.

Mr Murray and Mr Smith two of the Commissioners appointed on the part of this Province to agree with the Commissioners of the Massachusetts Bay with a Settlement of the Bounds between the two Provinces (Mr Nicoll and Mr Livingston the other two of the Commissioners for this Province being also present) informed the Board that they had proposed Connecticut River as the Eastern bounds of this Province, which the Massachusetts Commissioners would.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany
on Tuesday the 9 July 1754. A. M.

PRESENT

Joseph Murray and William Smith Esq^{rs} of the Council of New York
All the Commissioners Except Coll^{o} Partridge & Mr Hopkins

The public Conference between his Honour the Lieu^{t} Governor of New York and the Commiss^{rs} from the Several Governments with the Sachems of the Six Nations Yesterday Evening was read and ordered to be entered as follows.

BRETHEREN

You told me your Hearts were deeply concerned at the sad effects which may arise from Selling Rum in your Respective Countries. I will give Orders, that the Laws already made for preventing the Sale of this Liquor among you shall be Strictly put in Execution and whatever further provision in the Law is necessary I will endeavour it shall be made, that you may see I take care of your Health and your peace, which are hurt and disturbed by the use of this Liquor among you of the Five upper Nations. And as to what you of the Mohawks have said, I shall consider how far it may be necessary to restrain the people living round you from selling Rum, and if I can think of a proper remedy for this evil, I will endeavor to apply it.

BRETHREN of the upper Castle of the Mohawks.

I am well pleased with your earnest request to have a Church Built amongst you, and I shall do every thing in my power to promote so good a Work. And it is very agreeable to me and the Commissioners from all the Governments present to find a Disposition in you to receive the Christian Religion

BRETHEREN

As I have given you Satisfaction with respect to one of your Complaints about your Lands which lay heavy on your minds, and have assured you that I shall endeavour to do you Justice, as to the rest when I come to New York, I shall not say anything farther to you on that Affair now.

The Governor being informed by the Interpreter that they choose to have the pouder divided on the Hill, told them it was in his Opinion better for them to have it sent to Schenectady.

HENDRICK Answered for them, just as his Honour pleased, who told them, he would order the pouder to Schenectady and the Rum above the Settlements, with which they expressed themselves Satisfied.

HIS HONOUR then said

I have now done speaking to You but before I cover up the Fire I must recommend it to You to behave quietly and peaceably to all your Bretheren and their Castle in your return home.

Hendrick then Replyed

Your Honour told us you now covered up the Fire we are highly pleased that all things have been so amicably Settled, and hope that all that has passed between us may be strictly observed on both sides.

BRETHEREN of the Several Governments

We hope that you will not fail in the Covenant Chain wherewith we have mutually bound ourselves, and now so solemnly renewed and Strengthened.

If we dont hold fast by this Chain of Friendship our Enemies will laugh at us to Scorn.

BRETHEREN

We wish you would All contribute to provide some Provision for us in our way home, which will Effectually prevent our People from Killing the Inhabitants Cattle, And we desire you will

provide some Waggons for us to go to Schenectady. We think this Expence will fall to heavy upon one Province as we have the Presents from all to carry up.

We beg we may all take care of the Tree of Friendship and preserve it by our Mutual Attention from any Injuries; we will take care of it on our sides, and we hope our Bretheren will do so on theirs We wish this Tree of Friendship may grow up to great heigth and then we shall be a powerful People.

BRETHEREN

We the united Nations shall rejoice in the Increase of our Strength, so that all other Nations may stand in Awe of us.

BRETHEREN

I will just tell you what a People we were formerly, If any of our Enemies rose against us, we had no Occasion to lift up our whole hand against them, for our little Finger was sufficient And as we have now made so strong a Confederacy, if we are truly Earnest therein we may retrieve the Antient Glory of the Five Nations.

BRETHEREN We have now done, but one word we must add, the Interpreter, if the French continue their Hostalities will want Assistance, Three or Four to be joined with him but this matter we submit to the Governor. We have now fully finished all that we have to say.

THE GOVERNOR Replyed.

BRETHEREN

It gives me and all the Commissioners here present great Satisfaction, that this interview has concluded so Amicably on all sides. I have Ordered 30 Wagons to be provided for your Service which I expect here to Morrow Morning, and I have Ordered Provisions for you, to serve you on your Journey.

I hope by this present Union we shall grow up to a great heigth, and be as powerfull and Famous as you were of Old.

As to the Interpreter when the Circumstances of this Country require it, he shall have the Necessary Assistance, And I Assure you in the Name of this Government and all the Governments here present, that we shall endeavour to extend and preserve the Covenant Chain by every possible method in our Power.

They asked his Honour when himself and the Commissioners proposed to return home.

His Honour answered, That they had some Matters yet to settle about the Union and then they should set out for their respective Habitations.

The Governor then in his own name and that of the Commissioners, wished them a good Journey and they returned the Compliment and then the Conferrences broke up.

The Answers of the Lieut Governor and the Commissioners to the Schaakticook and River Indians was next read and ordered to be entered as follows.

The Answer to the Schaaktecook Indians.

CHILDREN

We condole with you on the loss of your Old and experienced People. A String

CHILDREN

I and the Commissioners from the other Governmts here present are glad to see that Although you are Young and unexperienced, yet you are willing to take advice, and are determined to remain faithfull to the King and friendly to all his Subjects A Belt

Answer to the River Indians

CHILDREN

We are glad to find that you Treasure up in your Memories the mutual instances of Friendship between our ancestors and yours. The Remembrance of that Friendship will descend to our

posterity, and we desire you to hand it down to yours. And altho' there is a great alteration in Circumstances since our predecessors first came among you, yet we have not less affection for you than they had. A Belt.

CHILDREN

Your brightening and Strengthening the Covenant Chain is well pleasing to me and the Commissioners. We acknowledge you have never broken it, We have likewise preserved it entire and are determined to continue to do so. A Belt.

CHILDREN

You complain that some of the People of this Province are in possession of your Lands which you never sold. This is a Complaint which Affects Persons that live at a distance; I have ordered notice to be given them of it, and if upon Enquiry into the affair, it shall appear that you have been injured, I will endeavour to get you redressed. But I shall observe to you that the constant method of granting Lands in this Province is and has been by Licence from the Governor to purchase from the Indians; and upon the purchase being returned before him in Council, he with their advice orders a Patent; and that most of these Lands concerning which you complain were patented when you were Children, some before any of you were born

Ordered that the following Minute be made

That the last paragraph of the foregoing answer to the River Indians about the manner of patenting Lands in this Province, beginning with the words, "I shall observe"—was an addition made by his Honour to the draught sent him Yesterday by this Board.

Coll°. Johnson Mr. Chambers
Coll°. Patridge & Mr. Hopkins } took their Seats.

The Plan of the union was Debated and agreed upon and Mr. Franklin was desired to make a Draught of it as now concluded upon.

Adjourned to 5 oclock this Evening.

At a meeting &c on Tuesday
the 9 July 1754. P. M.

PRESENT

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor
The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York &
All the Commissioners Except Mr. Franklin absent by his appointment in the Morning.

The draught of the Representation &c was read and considered Paragraph by Paragraph, some amendments made, and the whole was agreed to and ordered to be minuted as follows.

THAT his Majesties Title to the northern Continent of America appears to be founded on the Discovery thereof first made, and the Possession thereof first taken in 1497, under a Commission from Henry the 7th. of England to Sebastian Cabot.

That the French have possessed themselves of several parts of this Continent which by Treaties have been ceded and confirmed to them.

That the right of the English to the whole Sea Coast from Georgia on the South to the River St. Lawrence on the north excepting the Island of Cape Breton, and the Islands on the Bay of St. Lawrence, remains plain and indisputable.

That all the Lands or Countries westward from the Atlantick Ocean to the South Sea, between 48 and 34 Degrees north Latitude were expressly included in the Grant of King James the 1st, to divers of his Subjects, so long since as the Year 1606, and afterwards confirmed in 1620—and under this Grant the Colony of Virginia claims extent as far west as the South Sea, and the Antient Colonies

of the Massachusetts Bay and Connecticutt were by their Respective Charters made to extend to the said South Sea, so that not only the Right to the Sea Coast, but to all the Inland Countries from Sea to Sea has at all times been asserted by the Crown of England.

That the Province of nova Scotia or Accadie hath known and Determinate Bounds by the Original Grant from King James the 1st. and that there is abundant evidence of the Sense which the French had of these Bounds while they were in Possession of it, and that these Bounds being thus known, the said Province by the Treaty of Utrecht according to its antient Limits, was ceded to great Britain and remained in Possession thereof until the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, by which it was Confirmed; but by said Treaty it is stipulated that the Bounds of the said Province shall be determined by Commissarys &c.

That by the Treaty of Utrecht the Country of the Five Cantons of the Iroquois, is expressly acknowledged, to be under the Dominion of the Crown of Great Britain.

That the Lake Champlain formerly called Lake Iroquois and the Country Southward of it as far as the Dutch or English settlements, the Lakes Ontario, Erie and all the Countries adjacent, have by all Antient authors French and English been allowed to belong to the Five Cantons or nations, and the whole of these Countries long before the said Treaty of Utrecht, were by said nations, put under the protection of the Crown of Great Britain.

That by the Treaty of Utrecht, there is reserved to the French a liberty of Frequenting the Countries of the five nations and other Indians in Friendship with Great Britain for the sake of Commerce, as there is also to the English a Liberty of frequenting the Countries of those in Friendship with France for the same purpose.

That after the Treaty of Utrecht the French built several fortresses in the Country of the Five Nations, and a very strong one at a place called Crown point to the South of Lake Champlain.

That the French Court hath evidently since the Treaty of Aix le Chapelle, made this northern Continent more than ever the object of its attention.

That the French have most unjustly taken possession of part of the province of nova Scotia and in the River St. John's and other parts of the said province, they have built strong Fortresses, and from this River they will have during the winter and spring Season a much easier Communication between France and Canada, than they have heretofore had, and will be furnished with a Harbour more commodiously situated for the annoying the Brittish Colonies by Privateers and Men of war than Louisbergh itself.

That they have taken possession of and begun a settlement at the head of the River Kennebeck within the bounds of the Province of Main, the most convenient situation for affording support and safe Retreat to the Eastern Indians in any of their attempts upon the Government of New England.

That it appears by Information of the natives, the French have been making preparations for another settlement at a place called Cohass on Connecticut River near the head thereof, where it is about Ten Miles distant from a Branch of Merrimack River & from whence there is a very near and easy Communication with the Abnekais Indians who are Settled on the River St. Francois, about Forty Miles from the River St. Lawrence; and it is certain that the Inhabitants of New Hampshire in which Province this Cohass is supposed to lye, have been interrupted and impeded by the French Indians from making any settlement there.

That since the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, the French have increased the number of their Forts in the Country of the great Lakes and on the Rivers which run into the Mississipa, and are securing a Communication between the two Colonies of Louissania and Canada and at the same time putting themselves into a Capacity of annoying the Southern British Colonies and preventing any further Settlement of his Majesties Dominions.

That they have been gradually increasing their Troops in America, transporting them in their ships of war which return to France with a Bare Compliment of Men, leaving the rest in their Colonies, and by this means they are less observed by the Powers of Europe than they would be, if Transports as usual heretofore were provided for this purpose.

That they have taken Prisoners, divers of his Majesties subjects trading in the Country of the Iroquois and other Inland parts, and plundered such Prisoners of several Thousand Pounds Sterling, and they are continually exciteing the Indians to destroy or make Prisoners, The Inhabitants of the Frontiers of the Brittish Colonies which Prisoners are carried to Canada and a price equal to what Slaves are usually sold for in the Plantations is demanded for their Redemption and Release.

That they are continually drawing off the Indians from the British Interest and have lately persuaded one half the Onondaga Tribe with many from the other Nations along with them, to remove to a place called Oswegachie on the River Cadaraqui where they have built them a Church and Fort; and many of the Sennecas the most numerous Nation, appear to be Wavering and rather inclined to the French And it is a Melancholly Consideration that not more than 150 Men of all the Several Nations have attended this Treaty altho' they had Notice that all the Governments would be here by their Commissioners and that a large present would be given.

That it is the evident design of the French to Surround the Brittish Colonies, to fortifie themselves on the back thereof, to take and keep Possession of the Heads of all the important Rivers, to draw over the Indians to their Interest and with the help of such Indians added to such Forces as are already arrived and may hereafter be sent from Europe, to be in a Capacity of making a General Attack on the Several Governments; and if at the same time a Strong Naval Force be sent from France, there is the utmost Danger that the whole Continent will be Subjected to that Crown, and that the Danger of such a Naval Force, is not merely imaginary, may be Argued from past Experience, for if it had not been for the most Extraordinary Interposition of Heaven every Sea port Town on the Continent in the Year 1746. might have been ravaged and destroyed by the Squadron under the Command of the Duke de Anville, notwithstanding the then declining state of the French and the very flourishing State of the British Navy and the farther advantage accruing to the English from the possession of Cape Breton.

That the French find by experience they are able to make greater and more sure advantages upon their Neighbours in peace than in War. What they unjustly possessed themselves of after the Peace of Utrecht, they now pretend they have a Right to hold by Virtue of the Treaty of Aix le Chapelle until the true boundary between the English and the French be settled by Commissarys, but their Conquest made during the War they have been obliged to restore.

That the French Affairs relative to this Continent, are under the Direction and constantly Regarded by the Crown and Ministry, who are not insensible how great a Stride they would make towards an universal Monarchy if the British Colonies were added to their Dominions, and consequently the whole Trade of North America engrossed by them

That the said Colonies being in a divided disunited State there has never been any joint Exertion of their Force or Counsels to Repel or defeat the Measures of the French, and particular Colonies are unable and unwilling to maintain the cause of the whole. That there has been a very great Neglect of the Affairs of the Iroquois, or as they are commonly called the Indians of the Six Nations, and their Friendship and Alliance has been improved to private purposes, for the sake of the trade with them and the purchase or Acquisition of their Lands, more than to the public Service.

That they are Supplied with Rum by the Traders in vast and almost Incredible Quantities, the Laws of the Colonies now in force being insufficient to restrain the Supply, and the Indians of every Nation are frequently Drunk and abused in their Trade, and their Affections thereby alienated from the

English; They often wound and Murder one another in their Liquor, and to avoid Revenge flee to the French, and perhaps more have been lost by these means than by the French Artifices.

That purchases of Lands from the Indians by private persons for small Trifling Considerations have been the cause of great uneasiness and discontents, And if the Indians are not in Fact imposed on and injured, Yet they are apt to think that they have been, and indeed they appear not fit to be entrusted at Large with the Sale of their own Lands, and the Laws of some of the Colonies, which makes such Sales void, unless the allowance of the Government be first obtained, seem to be well founded.

That the granting or patenting vast Tracts of Land to private Persons or Companys without conditions of speedy Settlements has tended to prevent the Strengthening the Frontiers of the particular Colony where such Tracts lye, and been predjudicial to the State.

That it seems absolutely necessary that speedy and effectual measures be taken to secure the Colonies from the Slavery they are threatened with—That any further advances of the French should be prevented, and the encroachments already made removed. That the Indians in Alliance or Friendship with the English be constantly regarded under some wise Direction or Superintendency. That endeavours be used for the recovery of those Indians who are lately gone over to the French and for securing those that remain.

That some Discreet Person or Persons be appointed to reside constantly with each Nation of Indians, such Person to have no concern in Trade, and duly to Communicate all advices to the Superintendents—That the Trade with the said Indians be well regulated and made Subservient to the Public Interest, more than to private gain—That there be Forts Built for the Security of each Nation and the better Carrying on the Trade with them—That Warlike Vessels be provided sufficient to Maintain his Majesties right to a free Navigation on the Several Lakes—That all future Purchases of Lands from the Indians be void unless made by the Government where such Lands lye, and from the Indians in a Body in their Public Councils—That the patentees or possessors of large unsettled Territories be enjoined to cause them to be Settled in a Reasonable time on pain of forfeiture—That the Complaints of the Indians relative to any Grants or possessions of their Lands fraudulently obtained be enquired into, and all injuries redressed—That the Bounds of those Colonies which extend to the South Sea, be contracted, and limitted by the Alleghenny or Apalachian Mountains, and that Measures be taken for Settling from time to time, Colonies of his Majesties Protestant Subjects, Westward of said Mountains in Convenient Cantons to be Assigned for that Purpose, And finally that there be a Union of his Majesties several Governments on the Continent, that so their Councils, Treasure and Strength may be employed in due proportion against their common Enemy. All which is Submitted

Adjourned till 9 a Clock to Morrow Morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany
On Wednesday the 10th July 1754. A M.

PRESENT.

Joseph Murray and William Smith Esqrs of the Council of New York &
All the Commissioners (Except Henry Sherbourne Esqr one of the Commissioners for New Hampshire.

Mr Franklin reported the Draught in a New Form of a Plan of a Union, agreeable to the Determination of Yesterday, which was Read Paragraph by Paragraph and Debated, And the further consideration of it deferred to the Afternoon. Adjourned to 3 oClock this Afternoon.

Pennsylvania. 1754.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday 20th July 1754.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, William Till, Joseph Turner } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board the following Letter and Intelligence received by Express from Col. James Innes of Virginia, containing an Account of the Defeat of the English Forces under the Command of Col. Washington by a Body of French Troops ..... commanded by Monsieur De Villier at a Place called the Great Flats or Meadows, ... about Forty Miles on this Side the River Ohio, with other Advices of great Importance to his Majesties Service, and informed the Council, that he thought it absolutely necessary to convene the Assembly before the Time to which they now stand adjourned; and the Council concurring with his Honour in this Opinion, Writs issued for their Meeting on Tuesday the Sixth Day of August next.

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Col. Innes.

Honourd Sir,

Having Notice of a Person going to your Province, immediately I thought it proper on this Occasion to give You a short Detail of what hath lately happened.

After having regulated the March and the Transportation of the North Carolina Regiment, I immediately proceeded to Williamsburg, and by my Commission from Governor Dinwiddie as Commander in Chief of this Expedition I proceeded to Winchester, where I arrived the thirtieth of June in order to take the Command upon me, and to bring up the New-York Two Independant Companies with those of the North Carolina Regiment then upon their March from Alexandria for this Town.

Col. Washington with the Virginia Regiment and Capt. M'Kay with the South Carolina Independant Company together did consist but of Four Hundred Men, of which a good many were sick and out of Order. On the Third of July, the French with about Nine Hundred Men and a considerable Body of Indians came down upon our Encampment, and continued to fire from all Quarters from eleven in the morning till night; when the French called out to our People they would give them good Conditions if they would capitulate, a Copy of which I hear enclose You.

After the Capitulation the French demolished the Works, and in some time after retired to the Ohio, taking Two Captains as Hostages along with them; We all know the French are a People that never pay any Regard to Treaties longer than they find them consistent with their Interest, and this Treaty they broke immediately by letting the Indians demolish and destroy every Thing our People had, especially the Doctors Box that our Wounded should meet with no Relief, in this action it is said We had about one hundred killed and wounded, a Third whereof is supposed to be killed; it is reported We killed double the Number of the French. If this does not alarm the neighbouring Governments nothing can, and I make no doubt but the French will soon claim this fine Body of Land as their Right by Conquest, if We do not immediately raise a sufficient Force to ..... convince them of the contrary: what I can learn of their Forces is that they had Seven Hundred in their first Division, Eight Hundred in the next, and Five Hundred in the last, not as yet joined, which with their Indians makes a considerable Body.

Col.

Colo Washington and Capt. M'Kay told me there were many of our Freind Indians along with the French, sundry of which came up and spoke to them, told them they were their Brothers, and asked them how they did, particularly Sasquehannah Jack and Others that distinguished themselves by their Names; it is also reported there were sundry of the Delawares there. We had not one Indian to assist when the action commenced or ended.

It is my real Opinion that nothing will secure to Us the Indians now in our Friendship, if We allow ourselves to be baffled by the French; as it is very natural and common for a more polite People than the Indians to side with the strongest: so there is a Necessity either to go into the case in Dispute heartily at once, or to give it up entirely. We all may see the unlimited Encroachments of the French, who in time will very modestly look on every Part of America as their Right, if they can worm the unhappy unthinking People out of it by degrees, which at last must happen by the same Rule, Witness Hispaniola from the Spaniards and St. Lucia from Us. Many more Instances might be given to which You are no Stranger. I am

Sir

Your most obedient

humble Servant

James Innes

Winchester
12 July 1754.

Capitulation accordeé par Monsieur De Villier Capitaine d'Infanterie Commandant des Troupes de sa Majesté tres Chretienne, à celuy des Troupes Angloises actuellement dans le Fort de Necessité, qui avoit eté construit sur les Terres du Domain du Roi, ce 3 Juillet, à huit Heures du Soir. sçavoir.

Comme nôtre Intention n'a jamais eté de troubler la Paix et la bonne Harmonie qui regnoit entre les deux Princes amis, mais seulement de vanger l'Assassin qui a eté fait sur un de nos officiers, porteurs d'une Somation, et sur son Escort, comme aussi d'empecher aucun Etablissement sur les Terres du Domain du Roi mon maitre, à ces Considerations, nous voulons bien accorder Grace à tous les Anglois qui sont dans le dit Fort, aux ..... Conditions apres.

Article. 1.

Nous accordons au Commandant Anglois de se retirer avec toute sa Garnison, pour s'en retourner paisiblement dans son Pays; et lui promettons d'empecher qu'il luy soit fait aucune Insulte par nos François, et de maintenir, autant qu'il sera en nôtre pouvoir, tous les Sauvages qui sont avec nous.

2.

Il lui sera permis de sortir, et d'emporter tout ce qui leur appartiendra à l'exception de l'Artillerie, que nous nous reservons.

3.

Que nous leurs accordons les honneurs de la Guerre, qu'ils sortiront tambour batant, avec une Piece de petit Canon, voulant bien par là, leur prouver que nous les traitons en Amis.

4.

Que sitot les Articles signez de Part et d'autre, ils ameneront le Pavillon Anglois.

5.

Que demain à la Pointe du jour un Detachement François ira pour faire defiler la Garnison, et prendre Possession du dit Fort.

6.

Que comme les Anglois n'ont presque plus de Chevaux ni Boeufs, ils seront libres de mettre leurs Effets en Cache, pour venir les chercher, quand ils auront rejoints des Chevaux, ils pourront à cette fin y laisser des Gardiens en tel Nombre qu'ils voudront, aux Conditions qu'ils

donneront

doneront Parole d'Honneur de ne plus travailler à aucun Etablissement dans ce lieu, ni en deça la Hauteur des Terres pendant une Année à compter de ce Jour.

7.

Que comme les anglois ont en leur pouvoir un Officier, deux Cadets, et generalement les Prisoniers qu'ils nous ont fait dans l'Assassinat du Sr. de Jumonville, et qu'ils promettent de les renvoyer avec sauvegarde jusqu'au Fort du Quesne, situé sur la Belle-Riviere; et que pour Sureté de cet Article, ainsi que de ce Traité Mrs. Jacob Vanbram, et Robert Stobo tous deux Capitaines, nous seront remis en Otage jusqu'á L'arrivée de nos..... Canadiens et François cy dessus mentionez, nous nous obligeons de nôtre coté à donner Escorte pour ramener en Sureté ces deux Officiers; qui nous promettent nos... François dans deux Mois et demi pour le plus tard.

Fait double sur un des Postes de nôtre Blocus ce jour et an que dessus.

Coulon Villier.

Then was read a Letter from Governor Shirley enclosing a Copy of Peter Frank's Deposition taken before him, which are as follows.

Boston May 20 1754.

Sir

I am obliged to your Honour for the Favour of your Letter and the enclosed Papers in it by the last Post; I am in hopes the late Stroke of the French may produce an happy Effect for raising a proper Spirit in the Colonies and elsewhere.

I enclose You a Copy of a Deposition, which, if the French execute the Design enclosed in it, will greatly affect the Security of the neighbouring Colonies to Crown Point.

Governor Wentworth informs me by the last Post, that the Indians have begun Hostilities within his Government.

I congratulate You upon what an article of the publick Print mentions, that your Honour hath carried the Point You have been labouring with your Government, of contributing to the Support of the Common Cause. I hope all your Endeavours for the publick Service will be crowned with the like Success, tho in a perverse Assembly, and that You have perfectly recovered your Health.

I am obliged to You for your Design of answering the Remainder of my last Letter; and am with a very real Esteem and Respect

Sir

Your Honours
most humble and most
obedient Servant
W Shirley.

Honourable Governor Hamilton.

Copy of Peter Frank's Deposition taken before Governor Shirley.

Peter Frank, Native of Luxembourg in the Emperor's Dominions; upon Oath declares, That in the Year 1751 he was sent from Quebec with a Company in which he was Serjeant to Fort Saint Frederick at Crown Point, where he arrived in the Month of August the same Year, and remained till November following; That during his Continuance at said Fort, an Engineer and the Commissary from Montreal came there; and this Deponent saw them measure and mark out a Place for a new Fort upon a rocky Eminence where there is a fine Spring of Water, at about Three Hundred Paces from Fort Saint

Frederick

Frederick, which Eminence overlooks said Fort, and he heard the Commanding Officer at said Fort say they would begin to build the new Fort the Year following, and to encourage the Soldiers, said Officer told them they would get Money next Year, for they would all be employed about the Work; That after this Deponent had deserted from Crown Point and during his Stay at Albany, the People of this last mentioned Place told him, the aforesaid Eminence was exactly the Spot from whence Fort St. Frederick ought to be attacked.

This Deponent further declares that in the Month of November 1751 he deserted from Crown Point and escaped to Albany, where he remained Two Months, from thence he went to New York where he married a Wife, and remained there about Two Years, and then came to Boston, from whence in about Seven Days he departed in Order to live on a Settlement at Swan Island in Kennebeck River; that he dwelt on said Island from ..... August 1753 till May 2d. 1754, when he came off from said Island for fear of being taken by the Indians and carried to Quebec, as he had been often threatned by them and the Priest himself who resides among the Indians; particularly the Day before he left Swan Island Two Indians came to the House where he dwelt, and said to him, take care of yourself, perhaps in about Fifteen Days We shall begin the Dance, and a great many French Soldiers will come with us.

This Deponent further declares, that he is a Lutheran and chooses to live from the French, on account of his Religion.

his
Peter X Frank
mark

Boston. May 11th. 1754. The above written Peter Frank made Solemn Oath to the Truth of the foregoing Declaration

Before me W. Shirley. Governor.

A true Copy Examined

Per Thos. Clarke Dpty Secry.

And then the following Letter from Governor Dinwiddie was read.

Williamsburg Virginia June 21. 1754.

Sir,

Your Favour of the twenty second of May I received after my Return from Winchester. The Chiefs of the Indians did not meet me at Winchester; they sent an Express, that in their present Situation they could not leave their young People, but intended to join our Forces under the Command of Colo. Washington, and desired me to send them some of the Present, which was done.

On the twenty seventh of May the Half King sent Colo Washington Notice, that a Party from the French Army was hankering about his Camp, if he would march some of his People to join them he did not doubt of cutting them off. Colo Washington marched that Night and came up to the Indians, one of the Indian Runners tracked the French Men's Feet and came up to their Lodgment; they discovered our People about one hundred Yards distant, flew to their Arms, and a small Engagement ensued; We lost one Man and another wounded; the French had Twelve killed and Twenty One taken Prisoners, who are now in our Prison; the Indians scalped many of the dead French, took up the Hatchet against them, sent their Scalps and a String of black Wampum to several other Tribes of Indians, with desire that they should also take up the Hatchet against the French, which I hope they have done.

Before I left Winchester, I received three Strings of Wampum from the ..... Owendats and some other Tribes, assuring me they would not only take up the Hatchet, but

were

were in hopes of bringing over those Indians that had joined the French. Therefore if your Colony and the others had granted proper Supplies, 'tis probable by this time We should have been able to dislodge them from the Fort I ordered to be built, and they unjustly took from Us; as my Orders to our Commander in Chief was to be on the defensive, this small Skirmish was begun by the Indians and supported by our Men.

I am sorry your Assembly is so obstinate and disobedient to his Majesties Commands, I had a thorow Dependance on You for a Supply of Bread, the Want of which puts me to great Difficulties. I wish the Bill for £10,000 Supply had passed your Upper House in any Shape, as the Exigency of our Affairs so much want it; but You are the best Judge of the Cloggs on the Bill, and the Inconsistency thereof in regard to your Instructions, which probably at this Time You could have got passed with a saving Clause to prevent its being a President for the future, would have been of infinite Service.

I hope You have represented the affair properly Home, that they may see what little Dependance there is on Assemblies in this Part of the World, and really I hope the Ministry will take some proper Course to bring all the Colonies into a proper Sense of their Duty.

The Accounts You have in your Place is without Foundation; We have raised Money on the Credit of our Funds, but the small Sum given is but a Trifle to the Duty to be performed; but my great Dependance was on You for a Supply of Flower; I saw Mr Croghan at Winchester, who told me he had your Orders to purchase a large Quantity of Flower, which I was in hopes was for the Expedition, till I received your Letter; I employd him to go to our Camp to be Interpreter. and I gave Mr Montour a Captains Commission to head a select Company of friendly Indians, as Scouts from our small Army.

I am surprized that any Person should report that I had given up the Expedition, and disbanded the Men; It is undertaken by the Kings Command, and I will not give it up till the last Extremity, which I hope will not happen. Two Independant Companies are arrived from New York; one from South Carolina; the North Carolina Forces are on their March; when all are collected in a Body, I think We shall have Nine Hundred Men besides our friendly Indians; and if our neighbouring Colonies had, consistent with their Duty to their King and their own Preservation, given Us a proper Supply, I think it would have been an easy Matter to have dislodged the French from that Fort, and built some others to take full Possession of the Ohio River, and prevented their Encroachments for the future. All I could wish from You at present is a Supply of Flower to be carried out to our Camp at the Meadows near Red Stone Creek.

I shall be glad to hear the Result of the Meeting at Albany, and hope the Six Nations have taken up the Hatchet against the French, which will put a Spirit into the other Nations of Indians. With the little I have I am determined with Vigour to prosecute the Plan of Operation already begun.

I shall be glad on Return of this Express to know if You can supply some Flower as above.

I am with very great Respect
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Robert Dinwiddie.

Governor Hamilton.

Settlement of his Frontiers, but for Want of an Indian Purchase has not been able to do it. I have, therefore, directed Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters, when other Business will permit, to make Use of the Opportunity of sounding the Indians upon that Subject, to which should they seem enclined You will confer a particular Obligation both on the Proprietors and me by assisting with your good offices.

"I have only to wish You a pleasant Journey to Albany, and an happy and successful Issue to your Negociations, and to assure You that I am,

Sir, You most obedient and most humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"Governor De Lancey."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday, 20th July, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,
William Till,
Joseph Turner,
} Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board the following Letter and Intelligence received by Express from Col. James Innes of Virginia, containing an Account of the Defeat of the English Forces under the Command of Col. Washington, by a Body of French Troops commanded by Monsieur De Villier, at a Place called the Great Flats or Meadows, about Forty Miles on this Side the River Ohio, with other Advices of great Importance to his Majestie's Service, and informed the Council that he thought it absolutely necessary to convene the Assembly before the Time to which they now stand adjourned; and the Council concurring with his Honour in this Opinion, Writs issued for their Meeting on Tuesday the Sixth day of August next.

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A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Col. Innes.

"Honour'd Sir:

"Having Notice of a Person going to your Province immediately, I thought it proper on this Occasion to give You a short Detail of what has lately happened.

"After having regulated the March and the Transportation of the North Carolina Regiments, I immediately proceeded to Wil-

liamsburg, and by my Commission from Governor Dinwiddie as Commander-in-Chief of this Expedition, I proceeded to Winchester where I arrived the thirtieth of June, in order to take the Command upon me and to bring up the New York Two Independant Companies with those of the North Carolina Regiments then upon their March from Alexandria for this Town.

"Col. Washington with the Virginia Regiment and Capt McKay with the South Carolina Independant Company, together did consist but of Four Hundred Men, of which a good many were sick and out of Order. On the Third of July the French, with about nine Hundred Men and a considerable Body of Indians, came down upon our Encampment, and continued to fire from all Quarters from eleven in the morning till night, when the French called out to our People they would give them good Conditions if they would capitulate, a Copy of which I hear enclose You.

"After the Capitulation the French demolished the Works, and in some time after retir'd to the Ohio, taking Two Captains as Hostages along with them. We all know the French are a People that never pay any Regard to Treaties longer than they find them consistent with their Interest, and this Treaty they broke immediately by letting the Indians demolish and destroy every Thing our People had, especially the Doctor's Box, that our Wounded should meet with no Relief. In this action it is said We had about one hundred killed and wounded, a Third whereof is supposed to be killed: it is reported We killed double the Number of the French. If this does not alarm the neighbouring Governments, nothing can, and I make no doubt but the French will soon claim this fine Body of Land as their Right by Conquest, if We do not immediately raise a sufficient Force to convince them of the contrary. What I can learn of their Forces is, that they had Seven Hundred in their First Division, Eight Hundred in their next, and Five Hundred in the last, not as yet joined, which with their Indians makes a considerable Body.

"Col. Washington and Capt. McKay told me there were many of our Friend Indians along with the French, sundry of which came up and spoke to them, told them they were their Brothers, and asked them how they did, particularly Sasquehannah Jack, and others that distinguished themselves by their Names; it is also reported there were sundry of the Delawares there. We had not one Indian to assist when the Action commenced or ended.

"It is my real Opinion that nothing will secure to Us the Indians now in our Friendship if we allow ourselves to be baffled by the French, as it is very natural and common for a more polite People than the Indians to side with the strongest, so there is a Necessity either to go into the case in Dispute heartily at once or to give it up entirely. We all may see the unlimited Encroachments of the French, who in time will very modestly look on every Part of

America as their Right, if they can worm the unhappy, unthinking People out of it by degrees, which at last must happen by the same Rule; Witness Hispianola from the Spaniards and St. Lucia from Us. Many more Instances might be given to which You are no Stranger.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

"JAMES INNES.

"Winchester, 12th July, 1754."

"*Capitulation accordee par Monsieur De Villier, Capitaine d'Infanterie, Commandant des Troupes de sa Majeste tres Chretienne, a celuy des Troupes Angloises actuellement dans le Fort de Necessite, qui avoit ete construit sur les Terres du Domain du Roi, ce 3 Juillet, a huit Heures du Soir scavoir.*

"Comme notre Intention n'a jamais ete de troubler la Paix et la bonne Harmonie qui regnoit entre les deux Princes amis, mais seulement de vanger l'assassin qui a ete fait sur un de nos officiers, porteurs d'Une Somation, et sur son Escort, comme aussi d'empecher aucun Etablissement sur les Terres du Domain du Roi mon maitre, a ces Considerations, nous voulons bien accorder Grace a tous les Anglois qui sont dans le dit Fort, aux Conditions apres.

"ARTICLE 1.

"Nous accordons au Commandant Anglois de se retirer avec toute Sa Garrison, pour s'en retourner paisiblement dans son Pays; et lui promettons d'empecher qu'il luy soit fait aucune Insulte par nos Francois, et do maintenir, autant qu'il sera en notre pouvoir, tous les Sauvages qui sont avec nous.

"2.

"Il lui sera permis de sortir, et demporter tout ce qui leur appartiendra a l'exception de l'Artillerie, que nous nous reservons.

"3.

"Que nous leurs accordons les honneurs de la Guerre, qu'ils sortiront tembour batant, avec une Piece de petit Canon, voulant bien par la, leur prouver que nous les traitons en Amis.

"4.

"Que sitot les Articles signer de Part et d'autre, ils ameneront le Pavillon Anglois.

"5.

"Que demain a la Pointe du jour un Detachement Francois ira pour faire defiler la Garrison, et prendre Possession du dit Fort.

"6.

"Que comme les Anglois n'ont presqua plus de Chevaux ni Bœufs, ils seront libres de mettre leurs Effets en cache, pour venir les chercher, guand ils auront rejoints des Chevaux, ils pourront a cette fin y laisser des Gardiens en tel nombre qu'ils voudront, aux Conditions qu'ils doneront Parole d'Honneur de ne plus travailler a aucun Etablissement dans ce bien, ni en de ca la Hauteur des Terres pendant une Annee a Compter de ce Jour.

"

"Que comme les Anglois ont en leur pouvoit un Officier, deux Cadets, et generalement les Prisoniers qu'ils nous ont fait dans l'Assassinat du Sr. de Jumonville, et qu'ils promettent de les renvoyer avec Sauvegarde jusqu'au Fort du Quesne, situe sur la Belle Riviere; et que pour Surete de cet Article, ainsi que de ce Trait Mr. Jacob Vambram, et Robert Stobo tous deux Capitaines, nous Seront remis en Otage jusqua l'Arrivee de nos Canadiens et Francois c'y dessus mentionez, nous nous obligeons de notre cote a donner Escorte pour ramener en Surete ces deux Officiers qui nous promettent nos Francois dans deux Mois et demi pour le plus tard.

"Fait double sur un des Postes de notre Blocus ce jour et an que dessus.

"COULON VILLIER."

Then was read a Letter from Governor Shirley, enclosing a Copy of Peter Frank's Deposition taken before him, which are as follows:

"Boston, May 20, 1754.

"Sir:

"I am obliged to your Honour for the Favour of your Letter and the enclosed Papers in it by the last Post. I am in hopes the late Stroke of the French may produce an happy Effect for raising a proper Spirit in the Colonies and elsewhere.

"I enclose you a Copy of a Deposition, which, if the French execute the Design enclosed in it, will greatly affect the Security of the neighbouring Colonies to Crown Point.

"Governor Wentworth informs me by the last Post that the Indians have begun Hostilities within his Government.

"I congratulate You upon what an article of the publick Print mentions, that your Honour hath carried the Point You have been labouring with your Government of contributing to the Support of the Common Cause. I hope all your Endeavours for the publick Service will be crowned with the like Success, tho' in a perverse Assembly, and that You have perfectly recovered your Health.

New York 22d July 1754. 55

My Lords

With my last of the 5th of June to your Lordships, I sent the Minutes of Council, and the Journal of their proceedings in the two last Sessions, the Votes of the Assembly, and Ingrossed Copies of the five Acts passed then.

I returned last week from the Interview with the Indians at Albany, and it is with pleasure I can assure you, that we parted very good friends, which your Lordships may observe from what they say themselves in their Speech at the conclusion of the Conferences. I had the good fortune to bring the affair between the Germans, and Macgin and his Associates, (which had raised so great a ferment among the Indians

to a happy conclusion, with which the parties before me in Council, and in the presence of the Mohawks of Conajoharie or the upper Castle, declared themselves fully satisfied. This was one of the points the Indians had much at heart and they are now fully contented with the manner in which I settled it.

There is another Point that disturbs the minds of these upper Mohawks, which I shall set myself about redressing, as soon as I can be fully informed in relation to it, they say the Lands on which they live have been ——— clandestinely surveyed in the Night time, and patented some years ago to Mr Swingston and others: if this proves so upon inquiry, it must have been done by fraud and deceit: for it is not possible to belive that the Indians would ——— dispose of the Lands on which they live, and from which they have the chief part of their

subsistence

Subsistence. I shall cause the Records to be searched, and if I find the fact to be as the Mohawks have suggested, I will order some legal course to be taken to vacate that patent, for till this be done the —— uneasiness on their minds will never be removed: when this is done, I suppose the other, as lesser matters, may be easily got over.

They have desired me to get a Church built among them. I shall grant a Brief for that purpose, and encourage Subscriptions, and if I can obtain a Sufficient Sum, I will order the Church to be built of stone, in such a manner, that it may serve as a Fort upon any Emergency. Thus much of the upper Mohawks.

The lower Castle of Mohawks have also put in their complaints to me; and they consist of two articles. One relates to a grant of Land made by them to Mr Barclay, present Rector of Trinity Church, this grant passed through the usual forms.

but

but they say they intended it only as a Glebe for his use, while he lived among them as a Missionary and afterwards for the use of his Successors: but I am informed he made a Regular purchase of it, and believe it to be so, as he laid out a considerable Sum of money in building on it, which no prudent Man would have done, who had only an Estate of so short a continuance. I shall lay it before the Assembly and endeavour to prevail on them to pay M.r Barclay for his Improvements, who I am assured is willing to convey that Estate for the use of a Missionary for ever, upon being reimbursed the expences he has been at.

The other Article of Complaint is touching a large Tract of Land called Kayaderosse which the Indians say they have never sold. I sent for some of the Owners who produced an Indian Deed (of which the inclosed is a copy) and a Patent granted thereupon in November 1708.

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the bounds of which seem to me to be much larger than those in the Indian Deed. I must refer your Lordships to the Minutes of Council at Albany herewith sent, for the reasons which the Indians give to shew that the Lands were not regularly sold, — there have been no Settlements made on this Land though the grant be so Ancient, and the Tract so extensive; for at a very low computation it is upon the Mohawks River, except where it is interrupted by ancienter Patents, twenty five Miles, running up the River Westerly, thence Northerly by computation in the Patent twenty two Miles, thence Easterly or Northeasterly about twenty Miles to the third Falls on Hudsons River, thence Southerly along said river and Ancienter Grants, to the place where it begins, which I guess to be about twenty five Miles: but supposing it to contain as much as twenty Miles square, it will amount to 256,000 Acres. This Tract was granted to thirteen persons as Tenants in common

but

but is now by Purchases and devises branched out into such a Number, as can scarce be known or found, and so it is rendered extremely difficult, if not altogether impracticable to divide and settle it; and as the Lands lie to the Northward of Albany and the Mohawks River, it would be of great Service and security to our Northern Frontiers, if this grant could be vacated, and the Lands parcelled out to be settled in Townships, with an exemption from Quit Rents for ten years. This would encourage People to engage in the Settlement, especially if they were protected by a Fort at the Lake S.t Sacrament or nearer to them. I am as yet at a loss what Steps to take in this affair to give the Indians satisfaction, if the patent be vacated the Indians will be Satisfied, as they will then expect to have the Sale of these Lands. I shall consider of the Matter and whatever Judgment I form upon it, or steps I take in it, I shall submit to your Lordships, not having

time

time since my return from Albany to make a full enquiry into this matter.

I herewith send the proceedings of the Commissioners at Albany, in which your Lordships will find the publick Conferences with the Indians; the plan of a general Union of the Colonies; and a Representation of the present state of the Colonies: the latter was drawn without the concurrence of any of the Council of this Province. The Vessel is to Sail so soon, that the Council will not have time to consider of them, and lay their thoughts upon them before me: when they shall have done so, I will transmit them to your Lordships with such Observations as shall occur to me.

The Plan I proposed to the Commissioners was to build two Forts in the Indian Country, the one at Onondaga where the General Council of the five Nations is held; the other at Niorondequat near the Mouth of the Seneca River on the Lake Ontario.

Ontario, about 80 Miles Westward of Oswego, which was purchased from the Indians for this purpose when Mr Clarke was Lieutenant Governor: it is by this River the French went under Mr Denonville — the then Governor of Canada, to destroy the Seneca — Castle, and if we had a good Fort well Garisoned here, the Senecas would settle under its protection, and most of them become our firm Friends, and join us when occasion offers to dislodge the French — from Niagara, a Fort of theirs which Commands the pass between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, — which if it were in British hands, would soon put a stop to the French encroachments on the Ohio. This was what I proposed on that quarter. On the other towards Crown point or Fort S.t Frederick, at the South end of Lake Champlain, I proposed to build three Forts one at the Carrying place on Hudson's River, to Command that River; One on the Wood Creek a few Miles Northward below where

Fort

Fort Anne formerly stood; and the third at the South end of Lake S. Sacrament: by this Lake the French come in time of War to attack the Settlements of this Province, and may either pass down Hudson's River to Albany, or cross through the Woods to Schonectady and the Mohawks Country; this consideration alarms and discourages the Mohawks against whom the French bear a great Resentment, as they were the most active in the late War: a Fort at this place might give some stop to the French, or at least we might hence have notice of their approach, and put ourselves on our guard: the Wood Creek is a great inlet for the French to New Hampshire and Massachusets Bay, or, by turning to the right, into this Province. These two Forts therefore would be a great obstacle to the French Incursions into these Countries, and besides would make us Masters of the two great passes by water to Crown Point, and thence to Montreal, the waters of the Lake and the Wood Creek fall into the drowned Lands.

Lands and so pass by Crown Point into Lake Champlain; and it is easy to imagine of what consequence these Posts well secured will be in time of War. These were the things I proposed and which might have been soon and easily carried into Execution at the joint charge of the Provinces concerned, but the Commissioners would hear of nothing but the plan they have drawn up.

I inclose two papers that were communicated to the Commissioners at Albany, the one Intitled "Measures necessary to be taken with the six Nations" &c. drawn up by Colonel Johnson, and the other "Considerations towards a General Plan of the Measures of the English Provinces" drawn by Mr. Pownall, that your Lordships may have a full view of what passed at Albany.

We have received the Account of Major Washingt. Defeat near the Ohio by the French. The particulars as in the Paper inclosed may not be exact, but the Sub-

of

of the Disaster is not to be doubted. I have ordered — circular Letters to be sent to call the Assembly together on the 20th of August, when I shall endeavour to prevail on them to give Mr. Dinwiddie Assistance, and should the Assemblies do their Duty on this Occasion, I hope Mr. Dinwiddie will be able to cope with the French on the Ohio.

Since the above there is a Letter from Col. Innes to Governor Hamilton, giving an authentick Relation of Major Washington's Defeat, a Copy of which printed in the News Paper I inclose. I am

My Lord

Your Lordship's

most obedient & most

humble Servant

James de Lancey

New York.

Letter from James Delancey Esq.r Lieut. Gov.r of New York to the Board, dated y.e 22.d of July 1754:

Rec.d Octo.br y.e 16.th
Read Oct.r 24 } 1754.

Kk. 19.

With six Mss. Papers

Read Oct.r 24. 1754

61

Albany the 19 June 1754.

Proceedings of the Congress held at Albany by the Hon.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieut. Govern. and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York, and the Commissioners of the Several Provinces now met in this City.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 19th June 1754. A. M.

Present.

The Hon.ble The Lieut. Gov.r of New York

Joseph Murray,
William Johnson
John Chambers
William Smith
Esq.rs of His Majesties Council of New York

Samuel Welles
John Chandler
Oliver Partridge
John Worthington,
Esq.rs
Commiss.rs for Massachusetts Bay,

Theodore Atkinson
Richard Wibird
Meshec Weare
Henry Sherburne Junr.
Esq.rs
Commissioners for His Majesties Province of New Hampshire

William Pitkin
Roger Wolcott
Elisha Williams
Esq.rs
Commiss.rs for the Colony of Connecticut

Stephen

Stephen Hopkins &
Marten Howard Junr.
Esqrs.
Commissrs. for the Colony of
Rhode Island.

Benjamin Tasker &
Abraham Barnes Esqrs.
Commissrs. for the Govern.
of Maryland.

John Penn.
Richard Peters.
Isaac Norris.
Benjamin Franklin.
Esqrs.
Commissrs. for the
Govern.t of Pensilvania.

His Honour the Lieut. Governor of New York having Yesterday invited Mr. Banyar Deputy Secretary of the said Province, to wait upon the Commissioners of the Several Provinces above named, to acquaint them that his Honour desired they would meet him in Council in the City Hall of Albany this morning, in order to produce their Powers and proceed upon Business.

The said Commissioners being now accordingly Met, took their Seats, and produced their respective Commissions, which were read.

His Honour then produced a Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, bearing date the 18.th of September last, out of which a Paragraph was read.

Afterwards were read Two Minutes of the Proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs in this City dated the 15.th & 16.th Inst. Also a Remonstrance from the Six Nations to His Honour.

It was recommended as the first Step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the Commissioners should consider of the Several Matters they may Judge proper to be proposed to the Indians, at the Intended Interview with them, and to prepare the Speech to made on that Occasion, for which Purpose his Honour acquainted the Commissioners, he would direct the Secretary or Agent for Indian Affairs to attend them with the Records of that Office and the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to meet together as often as there should be Occasion in order that they might give them all the Information relative to Indian Affairs.

At

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Wednesday afternoon the 19th. June 1754.

Present.

The Council of New York
& } as particularly named in the
All the Commissioners } Minutes of this morning.

The Board proceeded to take into Consideration the Matters recommended by His Honour in the Morning. — The whole Letter from the Lords of Trade was read and is as follows.

Sir. White-hall Sept. 18th. 1753.

A few days after you sailed from Portsmouth we received a Letter from Mr. Clinton, inclosing minutes of the Proceedings between him, and a Deputation of the Mohawk Indians, at Fort George in the City of New York, in June last, with the Journals of the Assembly then Sitting.

You will without doubt upon your Arrival be fully informed of the particular Circumstances of this Affair the Resentment expressed by the Indians, and the abrupt and hasty manner in which they went away, and tho from the Confidence we have of your Vigilant Attention to whatever may Concern your Government, we are persuaded you will not have failed to have taken every necessary and prudent Measure to obviate the fatal Consequences which might attend this Affair. Yet we think it no less our Duty to embrace the first Opportunity of Writing your Sentiments to you upon, and of pointing out to you what appears to us necessary to be done.

Hen.

When we consider of how great Consequence the Friendship and Alliance of the Six Nations is to all His Majesties Colonies and Plantations in America in General as well as to New York in particular; When we consider that this Friendship and Alliance, is only to be gained, and preserved by making Presents to them at proper times and upon proper Occasions, and by an inviolable Observance of all our Engagements with them, and when we recollect the Attempts, which have lately been made to withdraw them from the British Interest, We cannot but be greatly concerned & surprized, That the Province of New York should have been so inattentive to the General Interest of His Majesties Subjects in America, as well as to their own particular Security, as to have given Occasion to the Complaints made by the Indians but we are still more Surprized at the manner in which these Complaints were received. The Dissatisfactory answers given to the Indians, and at their being suffered to depart (tho the Assembly was then Sitting) without any Measures taken to bring them to Temper or to redress their Complaints.

This being the Light in which we see this Affair, we think it for His Majesty's Service that you should take the very first Opportunity of representing to the Council and Assembly in the strongest manner of how great Importance it is to the Province of New York, to preserve the Friendship, and Affections of the Indians, and the fatal Consequences which must inevitably follow from a Neglect of them, that you should press them to Join with and Support you in every measure you shall find it necessary to pursue in order to fix them in their British Interest, more Especially by making proper Provisions for Presents for them, Which Joined to the Presents allowed by His

Majesty

Majesty and which you will receive by this Convey-
-ance, may serve to facilitate this great end, and to wipe away
all Remembrance of that neglect the Indians now complain of.
As a speedy Interview with the Indians is from their pre-
-sent Disposition become the more necessary, you will no
doubt think it proper to advise with the Council, As to the
Time & Place of meeting the Indians, in which point we
trust you will have a due regard to their Conveniency, and
as it appears from their Complaints, that Albany which
has been the usual place of meeting is Obnoxious to them
you will, if you find sufficient Foundation for this Com-
-plaint appoint some other place, you shall think more for
their Ease & Satisfaction, and We Observe from a Report
of the Council and Assembly to Wm Clinton that Onondaga
is proposed as the most proper place. We likewise hope
that in the Choice of the Persons who are to attend and assist
you at this Interview, you will have a regard to such as are
best acquainted with the Indians and their Affairs and not
Obnoxious to them; and as a great deal Depends upon the
Interpreters, we desire you will be particularly careful to
appoint such as are well acquainted with the Indian Lan-
-guage and of Ability and Integrity.

We hope that the Threats of the Mohawk Indians
when they left New York have not been carried into Execution
but think it of Absolute Necessity in order to Obviate any
Ill Consequences which might attend those Threats, that
some Person of Character & Discretion should be immediately
sent amongst the Indians to acquaint them of your Arrival
Of the Presents His Majesty has ordered to be delivered to them
and of your Intention of Holding an Interview with them
for burying the Hatchet, and renewing the Covenant Chain,
that this Person should be carefully instructed to endeavour
to remove any prejudices which the Six Nations may
have imbibed from the Representations of the Mohawks
So Obviate the Ill Effects which would attend a General
Discontent amongst them at so Critical a Juncture and

&c.

To put them upon their Guard against any attempts which may be made to withdraw them from His Majesties Interest, and that nothing may be wanting to convince the Indians of the Sincerity of our Intentions, you will do well to Examine into the Complaints they have made of being Defrauded of their Lands, to take all proper & Legal methods to redress their Complaints, and to Gratify them by reasonable Purchases, or in such other manner, as you shall find most proper & agreeable to them, for such Lands as have been unwarrantably taken from them, and for such other as they may have a desire to dispose of; and we recommend it to you to be particularly careful for the future, that you do not make Grants to any Persons whatsoever of Lands purchased by them of the Indians upon their own Accounts, Such Practices have been found in a Neighbouring Government to be attended with Great Mischief and Inconvenience; But when the Indians are disposed to Sell any of their Lands, The Purchase ought to be made in His Majesty's Name, and at the Publick Charge.

As we find it has been usual upon former Occasions when an Interview has been held with the Indians, for the other Neighbouring Governments in Alliance with them to send Commissions to be Joyned with those of New-York, and as the present wavering Disposition of the Indians Equally affects the other Provinces, We have Wrote to the Governours of Virginia, Pensilvania, Maryland, New Hampshire, Massachusets Bay & New Jersey desiring them to represent to their respective Assemblies the Utility and Necessity of this measure, and to urge them to make proper Provision for it, and therefore it will be necessary that when you have Settled the Time and Place of Meeting

You

You should give them early Notice of it, and this leads us to recommend one thing more to your Attention, and that is to take care that all the Provinces be if (practicable) Comprized in one General Treaty to be made in His Majestie's Name, it appearing to us that the Practice of each Province making a Seperate Treaty for itself in its own Name, is very improper, and may be attended with great Inconvenience, to His Majesty's Service.

So we bid you heartily farewell and are

Your very Loving Friends &
Humble Servants.
Dunk. Halifax.
J. Grenville.
Dupplin.

To Sr. Danvers Osborn
Govr. of New-York

Albany June 1754.

A true Copy of the Original
Exam.d by
Gw. Banyar
D. Secry

And also were read the following Papers from the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany, viz.

Albany 15 June 1754.
At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Mr. Sutteridge's.

Present.
Coll. Myndt. Schuyler
Robert Saunders Esqr.
Mayor of the City.
Shyb.t Van Schaack Esqr.
Recordr.
Captain Hubert Marshall
Command.r of the Fort
Cornelius Cuyler.
John Beekman.
John Rentzelaar
Jacob Coent. Ten Eyck
Piter Winne.
} Esqrs

Peter Wraxall Secry.

His Honour the Lieut. Govr. the Honourable James De Lancey Esqr. having directed Coll. Myndt. Schuyler to convene the Commissioners of Indian Affairs that they might

Consult

Consult together if they had any matters in particular to recommend to his Honour upon the approaching Interview, with the Six Nations.

In Consequence hereof the Commissioners are of Opinion, that the Six Nations, who now live dispersed and Confused, should in the most earnest manner be exhorted to unite & dwell together in their Respective Castles, and that the Mohawk Nation should Live in One Castle only.

That his Honour apply to the Onondaga Indians in particular to direct and Exhort them to live together in one Castle according to their Ancient and prudent Custom, and to cause all their Friends and Relations wherever dispersed to Joyn them particularly those who have Seperated themselves, & Live at present at Swegatsie, on the South side of the River St Laurence, to the Eastward of Cadaraqui where the French have lately fortified, have a Garison, and where a French Missionary constantly resides in order to draw them off from our Alliance. At this Swegatsie the French have lately made a Settlement of Indians belonging to the Six Nations of which the greatest part are from Onondaga and Cayouge.

That Whereas the French have been long endeavouring to prevail on the Senecas to come and Settle at Irondequat in order to have them nearer to their Settlements, the more Easily to Effect their Design of debauching them from the British Interest, the Commissioners are of Opinion, that his Honour should Insist on the Senecas, who at present live very remote from one another, to make a General Castle near the Mouth of the Seneca River, where they have already began to build a New Castle, ——— This point has been several times recommended to them by former Governors, and which

they

They have faithfully promised to do, but have not hitherto effected.

The Commissioners are of Opinion that the most effectual Method to retain and Secure the Six Nations to the British Interest, will be to build two Forts, One in the Onondaga, the other in the Seneca Country, and that each Fort be supply-ed with a proper Missionary. They are further of Opinion that the carrying and Selling Rum in the Castles of the Six Nations is of the most pernicious Consequence to the public Interest of that Colony in particular and to the British Interest in General, with respect to our Indian Connexions.

The Commissioners are also of Opinion that no French-man upon any Pretence Whatsoever, should be suffered to reside or Trade amongst the Six Nations, and that the Six Nations should be directed to send those Frenchmen away who now Trade or reside amongst them, and to warn them not to return. Those French Emissaries having always been of fatal Consequence to the British Interest amongst the Six Nations.

A true Copy from the Records of Indian Affairs. Peter Wraxall Secr.y

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Albany 10.th June 1751.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at the House of Robert Lutteridge.

Present.

Peter Wynne.
Hybrandt Van Schaack Recorder
Mynd.t Schuyler.
John Beekman.
Jacob Coen.t Ten Eyck. } Esq.rs

At

His Honour the Lieut. Governor having sent to Col. Myndt. Schuyler to know what he should do with Regard to the River Indians at the approaching Interview — Col. Schuyler thought proper to convene the Commissioners that they might answer his Honour upon their Point,

They are of Opinion that after the Six Nations Arrive in Town, it will be time enough to send a Message to the said River Indians.

Whereas divers Complaints have been made to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs that the Indians at Choneyohere Castle, do forcibly take Rum from the Onego Traders, in their Passage by the said Castle; and also that the Oneida Indians Oblige the Traders to let them Carry their goods over the Carrying Place, and to pay them double, and sometimes more than double the Customary price which the Germans are ready and Willing to take; It is the Opinion therefore of this Board that His Honour be pleased at the approaching Interview, to represent the Injustice of these Proceedings to the Six Nations, and that it is a Breach of their Promises so Solemnly made, and a Violation of their Engagements entered into, and frequently renewed with former Governours

A True Copy from
the Records of Indian Affairs
Peter Wraxall
Secry &c.

A Remonstrance was then Read to the Board from the Onego Traders to His Honour the Lieut. Gov. of New York, of which the following is a Copy.

"To His Honour James De Lancey Esq.
Lieut. Governor, and Commander in Chief of the
Province of New York &c. &c. &c.

We the Traders or (Handlers) to Onego most humbly beg Leave to remonstrate to your Honour

Honour the many hardships and Difficulties we are subject to, in our Passage thither from the Ill treatment we meet with from the Indians (i.e.) in passing the Mohawks and Conajoharry Castles, they board our Battoes with Axes, knives &c and by force take what Rum they think proper, hooping and Yelping as if they Gloried in their Depredations, and threatning Murder to any that Oppose them, and on our Arrival at the great Carrying place the Oneida Indians force our Goods from us at pleasure to Carry over, and not Content with making us pay a most exorbitant price for each Freight, but Robbed us of our Rum Stores, and other goods with a great deal of invective threatening Language, and are generally so numerous that we are Obliged to Submit to these Impositions, or run the risk of being murdered, and Robbed of every thing we have, and to put their Schemes the better in Execution they force away the Eight Germans who generally attend with their Canoes that we may be under a necessity of Employing them, and paying whatsoever they please to demand.

We therefore humbly pray your Honour to take these our most Grievances under due Consideration and fall upon such methods to redress them as you in your great Wisdom, shall deem most Expedient.

Accept of our most fervent prayers for Welfare and Prosperity, as we ever remain with all due Deference, Gratitude and Esteem,

Sir.

Your Honours
Most Dutiful & Most
Humble Servts.

Oswego June 1st 1751.

Whereunto Several names were Signed.

The following Gentlemen were appointed a Comittee to prepare the Draught of a General Speech to be made by Sir Jonour to the Indians. Namely)

William Johnson.
Samuel Wells.
Theodore Atkinson. Elisha

Elisha Williams
Martin Howard Junr.
Isaac Norris.
Benjamin Tasher Junr. } Esqrs. to whom were Delivered the aforesaid Papers.

Adjourned till to morrow morning.

At a Meeting at the Court-House in Albany on Thursday the 20th June 1754. A. M.

Present.
His Honour & the aforesaid Council of New York. and Several of the Commissioners.

The Committee appointed Yesterday to prepare a Draught of a general Speech to be made to the Indians, not being ready to make their Report The Board adjourned till to morrow morning.

At a Meeting in the Court-House at Albany on Fryday the 21st June 1754 A. M.

Present.
His Honour the Lieut. Gov.r
the Council of New York aforesaid
all the Commissioners,
And
Thomas Hutchinson Esq.r
One of the Commissioners of Massachusetts Bay. —

It was proposed by the Gov.r that to avoid all Disputes about the Precedency of the Colonies, they should be named in the Minutes according to their Situation from North to South. —
which was agreed to.

Peter

Peter Wraxall, Esq.r was chosen Secretary to this Board.—

The Committee delivered in their Draught of the General Speech; which was read thro, and afterwards Paragraph by Paragraph, Objections were made to some parts, The Board not coming to any Conclusion on the same they adjourned till to morrow morning.—

At a Meeting in the Court-House at Albany on Saturday the 22. June 1754.— A. M.

Present.
The Council of New York aforesaid,
And all the Commissioners except John Chandler Esq.r
One of the Commissioners for Massachusetts Bay.

The Consideration of the Draught of the General Speech was resumed, and one being agreed upon Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Elers were desired to wait upon the Lieut. Gov.r with the Same.

Adjourned to Monday Morning.

Pres.t

The Council of New York aforesaid and all the Commissioners.

At a Meeting in the Court-House at Albany on Monday the 24. June 1754. 2 A. M.

A Motion was made that the Thanks of this Board be given to the Rev.d Mr. Elers, One of the Commissioners for Pensilvania, for his Sermon Preached Yesterday, and that he be desired to Suffer the same to be printed.

Which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Chambers and Mr. Elers were desired to wait upon his Honour, to request him to administer an Oath to Mr. Wraxall for the due and faithful Discharge of his Office of Secretary to this Board.

Adjourned to three o'Clock this Afternoon. H.

At a Meeting as aforesd.
Monday Afternoon the 24
June 1754.

Present
His Honour the Lieut.
Govr. and the Council
aforesaid of the Province
of New York.
And all the Commissioners.

Mr. Chambers & Mr. Peters
Reported to the Board that Mr. Wraxall had been sworn
into his Office by His Honour Conformable to their
Desire in the morning.

A Motion was made, that the Commissi-
oners deliver their Opinion whether a Union of
all the Colonies is not at present absolutely necessary
for their Security and Defence.

The Question was accordingly put, and it
passed in the Affirmative Unanimously.

His Honour the Lieuten. Govr. made a
Proposal as a Branch of Indian Affairs under the
Consideration of this Board, to build two Forts in the
Indian Country to protect them, their Wives & Children
as the best Expedient to secure their Fidelity to His
Majesty.

Which proposal the Board Determined
to proceed upon after they had Considered some method of
Effecting the Union between the Colonies.

On a Motion that a Committee be appointed
to prepare and receive Plans or Schemes for the union of
the Colonies, and to digest them into one General Plan
for the Inspection of this Board.

Resolved. That each Governm.t Choose one of
their own Number to be of that Committee.

Accordingly were appointed.

Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. .... for Massachusets Bay
Theodore Atkinson Esqr. .... for New Hampshire
William Pitkin .... Esqr. .... for Connecticot.

Stephen.

Stephen Hopkins Esq.r for Rhode Island.
Benjamin Franklin Esq.r for Pensilvania.
Benjamin Thaker ..... Esq.r for Maryland.

It was left to His Honour to appoint one of His Majesty's Council for the Govern.t of New York, and he named William Smith Esq.r

Adjourned till to morrow morning at 11. O Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Thursday the 25.th June 1754 A. M.

Present.
Joseph Murray.
William Johnson.
John Chambers Esq.r of the Council of New York.

Samuel Welles
John Chandler.
Oliver Barbidge
John Worthington
} Esq.rs Commiss.rs for the Massachusetts Bay.

Richard Wibird.
Meschech Weare
Henry Sherburne
} Esq.rs Commiss.rs for New Hampshire.

Roger Wolcott.
Elisha Williams
} Esq.rs Commiss.rs for Connecticut.

Martin Howard Junr Esq.r a Commiss.r for Rhode Island

John Penn.
Isaac Norris
} Esq.rs Commissioners for Pensilvania.

Abraham Barnes Esq.r a Commiss.r for Maryland.

The Draughts of the General Speech not being returned to the Board from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York

Adjourned till 5 O Clock this Afternoon.

At a Meeting as aforesaid Thursday the 25.th June 1754.
P. M.

Present
All the Gentlemen of the Council of New York
And all the Commissioners

Mr. Murray delivered to the Board for their Approbation His Honours

Honours Alterations, and Additions to the Draught of the Speech presented to His Honour by Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Sitlers, the 22d. inst. which were read to the Board by the Secry., and the further Consideration thereof was deferred till to morrow morning.

Adjourned till 11. o Clock to morrow morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 26th. June 1754. — A.M.

Present
William Johnson & John Chambers Esqrs. of the Council of New York
Samuel Welles, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson and Oliver Partridge Esqrs. Commissrs. for Massachusetts Bay.
William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott & Elisha Williams Esqrs. Commissrs. for Conecticut.
Martin Howard Junr. Esq. a Commissr. for Rhode Island.

The Draught of the General Speech to the Six Nations was further debated, but not being fully Concluded upon —

The Board adjourned till 10 Clock to morrow Morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House At Albany on Thursday the 27th. June 1754. — A.M.

Present
The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York
And
All the Commissioners.

The Draught of the General Speech was further Debated, and not being fully Concluded upon

The Board Adjourned till 5 o Clock this Afternoon.

At

Pres.
The four Gentlemen
of the Councils of New-York
And
All the Commissioners.

At a Meeting in the Court House
At Albany on Thursday the 27th June
1754 P.M.

A Motion was made that the Commissions or
Powers from the Several Governments should be made part of
the Records of this Congress.

It was Unanimously agreed to, and Ordered to be
prefixed to these Records.

The Draught of the General Speech was Rellied, Read, &
unanimously Approved of, and is as follows.

Brethren.

I have invited you here by the Command of
the Great King our Common Father, to receive a Present from him
and in his Name to renew the Antient Treaty between Him and
all his other Governments, and you our Brethren: and I have
the Pleasure to tell you that by his Majesty's Order there are now
present, Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire
Conecticut, Rhode Island, Pensilvania, & Maryland.

Virginia and Carolina likewise desire to be considered as
present, altho some great Affairs which those Governments are
Engaged in, have prevented their sending Commissioners. We are
Glad to see our Brethren here in health, and heartily bid you
Welcome. A Belt

Brethren.

We Condole yours, and our Loss in the Death
of some of your People since the last Interview in this Place; We
Wipe away all Tears from your Eyes, and take away Sorrow from
your Hearts, that you may Speak freely Three Strings of Wampum.

Brethren.

We come to Strengthen & Brighten the Chain of
Friendship. It gives us great Satisfaction, that you have lately
added two links to the Chain, The Shanichadara & Dighroonee & the
Tedorighroonee, as it will always give us pleasure to see your
Strength increased. This Chain hath remained Firm and

Unbroken.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Unbroken from the Beginning. This Belt will Represent to you our Disposition to preserve it Strong & Bright so long as the Sun and Moon shall Endure, and in the name of the Great King our Father, and in the behalf of all His Majesties Colonies, we now Solemnly renew brighten and Strengthen the Ancient Covenant Chain, And Promise to keep the same Inviolable and Free from Rust, And we expect the like Confirmation and Assurance on Your part A Chain Belt.

Brethren.

We are informed that you now live dispersed from each other Contrary to the Ancient and prudent Custom of your Forefathers. And as you are by this means Exposed to the Attempts of your Enemies. We therefore in the most Earnest Manner recommend to, and expect it from you, for your own Safety, to collect yourselves together, and dwell in your National Castles, We Desire you Brethren of the Onondaga Nation in particular to call in your Friends and Relations to Join you especially those of your Nation who now lives at Oswegachie. A Brave People seperated from each other may Easily fall a Sacrifice, whereas united they may live Secure, & uninjured. A Belt.

Brethren.

We have something to say to you of great Importance, The Treaty, Subsisting between us and you our Brethren, as well as the great Affection we bear towards you, Obliges us to mention it; The French profess to be in perfect Friendship with us as well as you, Notwithstanding this, they are making Continual Incroachments upon us both: they have lately done so, in the most insulting manner, both to the Northward and Westward. Your Fathers by their Valour above one hundred years ago Gained a Considerable Country, which they afterwards of their own accord put under the Protection of the King of Great Britain. The French are Endeavouring to possess themselves

Themselves of this whole Country, altho they have made the most Express Treaties with the English to the Contrary

Brethren. It appears to us that these measures of the French, must necessarily soon interrupt & destroy all Trade & Intercourse between the English and the several Indian Nations on the Continent, and will block up & obstruct the Great Roads which have hitherto lain open between you & your Allies and Friends who live at a Distance.

We want to know whether these things appear to you in the same Light as they do to us, or Whether the French taking Possession of the Lands in your Country & building Forts between the Lake Erie, and the River Ohio, be done with your Consent or Approbation. A Large Belt.

Brethren.

Open your hearts to us & deal with us as Brethren We are ready to Consult with you, how to Scatter these Clouds that hang over us, This is a matter of so great Weight that we think it best to defer mentioning any other Affairs till you have Considered this, least they should take away part of that Attention which is necessary on so Extraordinary an Occasion. A Belt.

Adjourned till to morrow morning at 11 O Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Fryday the 28th June 1751. A.M.

Present

John Chandler
Oliver Partridge
and
John Worthington
Esqrs
Commissrs for Massachusets Bay.

Richard Wibird.
Meschech Weare
and
Henry Sherburne Esqrs
Commissrs for New Hampshire.

Roger Wolcott &
Elisha Williams
Esqrs
Commissioners for Connecticut

Harlem

Martin Howard Junr. Esqr. a Commissr.
for Rhode Island. John Penn Esqr. one of the Commissrs. for Pensilvania.

The Board ~~adjourned~~ adjourned till 5. Oclock this afternoon.

At a Meeting &c. Friday afternoon the 28. June 1754. P.M.

Present.
The Gentlemen of the Council of New York.
All the Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay
All the Commissioners from New Hampshire
All the Commissioners from Connecticut
Stephen Hopkins Esqr. one of the Commissioners from Rhode Island.
John Penn .....
Benjamin Franklin } Esqrs. Commissrs. from Pensilvania
Benjamin Fletcher Junr. Esqr. one of the Commissrs. from Maryland.

The Committee appointed the 24th inst to prepare Queries Plans & Schemes for the union of the Colonies, presented Short hints of a Scheme for that purpose of which Copies were taken by the Commissrs. of the respective Provinces.

Adjourned till to morrow morning at 9 a Clock.

Present.
William Smith Esqr.
One of the Council of New York and
All the Commissioners.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany on Saturday the 29th June 1754. A. M.

His Honour the Lieutenant Govr. of New York having given Notice to this Board that he was going to speak to the Indians. The Board adjourned till 5. Oclock this Afternoon and attended His Honour while he delivered the Speech.—

At

Present
Joseph Murray.
John Chambers &
William Smith
Esqrs
of the Council of New York
All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay.
Theodore Atkinson &
Richd. Wibbird
Esqrs
Commissioners for New-
Hampshire.

At a Meeting in the Court-House
at Albany on Saturday the 29th June
1754. — P.M.

All the Commissrs from Connecticut
All the Commissrs from Rhode Island
All the Commissrs from Pensilvania.
The Commissrs from Maryland.

The Board being informed that a Considerable Number of Indians from Stock bridge, being of the Nation known by the Name of the River Indians were in Town, a Motion was made that his Honour the Lieut. Governor might be acquainted with the Circumstances of said Indians and desired to give Orders for their Support.

The said Motion was agreed to And Mr. Weiser & Mr. Franklin were appointed to wait on His Honr. Accordingly. The Heads of a Scheme for the Union of the Colonies were debated on, but come to no Conclusion.

Adjourned to Monday morning at 9. O Clock.

At a meeting at the Court House at
Albany on Monday the 1st July
1754. — A. M.

Present
The Lieutenant Govr & the four. Gentn of the Council of New York.
All the Commissrs for Massachusets
Bay except John Chandler Esqr.
Theodore Atkinson and Henry Sherburne Esqrs Commissrs.
for New Hampshire.
The Commissioners for Connecticot
The Commissioners for Rhode Island
All the Commissioners for Pensilvania
The Commissioners for Maryland.

Mr. Franklin Reported to the Board that he had on the

Mr.

Mr. Welles (Mr. Welles was not then present) waited on the Lieut. Governor, and delivered the Message from the Board of Saturday last, relating to the River Indians living near York bridge, and that his Honour, was pleased to answer that he had not sent for those Indians, that he had consulted his Council, and enquired of the Commiss.rs of Indian Affairs, and was informed that it had never been usual to afford Subsistance to those Indians at any Treaty in Albany, that it was a great Expence to New York to maintain the other Indians, that those properly belonged to Massachusets Bay Govern.t and it appeared to him that they should be Supported by that Govern.t

Upon a Motion the Records of Indian Affairs of the Province of New York were sent for, and it appeared that the River Indians have usually been present at the Treaties with the five Nations and that a Speech has always been made to the said River Indians, and it was moved to the Lieut. Gov.r of New York that he would now Speak to them in the Name of the Commiss.rs from the several Colonies, And also give Orders for their Support.

His Honour agreed to the Proposal of Speaking to them, and Offered to give Orders for their Support but was pleased to say that he expected the Commiss.rs for the several Provinces would Contribute to the Charge of it.

His Honour delivered to the Board Copys of Two Minutes of Council which are as follows.

At a Court held in the City of Albany the 27.th June 1754. Present

The Honourable James De Lancy Esq.r Lieut. Governor

Mr. Murray.
Col.o Johnson.
Mr. Chambers.
Mr. Smith. ——

His

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpreter that the Lower Castle of the Mohawk Indians now in this City had Some Business to Lay before him, and desired to be admitted to an Audience, Appointed them to attend at 4 OClock this Afternoon, in Council, and they attending accordingly were introduced with the Interpreter.

The Governor told them he was very glad to see them, that he was now Met in Council and ready to hear what they had to say.

Whereupon Annadagara their Speaker addressing himself to his Honour Spoke as follows.

Brother.

We are here this day by Gods Will, and your Honours Order, to which place you have led us as it were by the hand, this is our Old meeting Place, where if we have any Grievances, we can lay them open, You are lately come to the administration, and we are glad to See you, to lay our Complaints before you, We take it very kind that you have given us this Opportunity to unfold our minds, and we will now proceed to Declare of our Grievances.

Brother.

We Shall now open our minds, and we beg you will take time to Consider what we shall say, and not give us too hasty an answer, or in two or three words, and then turn your Back upon us. As you are a new Governor we beg you will treat us tenderly, and not as the former Governor did, who turned his Back upon us, before we knew he intended to depart, So that we had no opportunity to finish our Business with him. The reason we desire you would treat us in this tender manner is because this is the Place where we are to expect a Redress of our Grievances, and we hope all things will be so Settled that we may part Good Friends.

Brother

We told you a little while ago that we had an uneasiness on Our minds, and we shall now tell you what it is, it is concerning our Land. we understand that there are writings

for

For all our Lands so that we shall have none left but the very Spot we Live upon and hardly that; we have examined amongst the Elderly People, who are now present, if they have sold any of it, who deny that they ever have, and we earnestly desire that you will take this into Consideration, which will give us great Satisfaction, and convince us that you have a Friendship for us, we dont complain of those who have honestly bought the Land they possess, or those to whom we have given any; but of some who have taken more than we have given them, We find we are very poor, we thought we had yet Land round about us, but it is said there are writings for it all, It is one Condition of the Ancient Covent Chain, that if there be any uneasiness on either side or any request to be made, that they shall be considered with a Brotherly Regard, and we hope you will fulfill that Condition on your side, as we shall be always ready to do on ours, we have embraced this Opportunity of unbosoming ourselves to you, with regard to our Castle and we are well assured that the other Castle of the Mohawks have complaints of the same Nature to make, when they come down, we have now declared our own Grievances, and the Conajoharys will declare theirs, but that we shall leave to them. by this Belt, we desire you to consider what we have said, and by the Same we inform you that the five Nations have Some thing to say to you before you Speak to them. Gave a Belt.

The Governour said

You have now unbosomed your-selves to me, & desire I would seriously consider of what you have said, and not give you a hasty answer.

I will consider of it Seriously, and you shall always find me ready to redress any of your Grievances as far as it may be in my power. But your Complaints are General, I must therefore desire you to tell me, where those Lands Lye and the Names of the Persons of whom

You

You Complain. To which their Speaker answered.

Brother.

We are told a large tract of Land has been taken up called Kayadarosseras, beginning at the half-moon, and so up along Hudson's River to the Third Fall, and thence to the Cachnowaga or Canada creek, which is about 4 or 5 miles above the mohawks, which upon enquiry among our Old men we cannot find was ever sold, and as to the Particular Persons many of them Live in this Town, but there are so great a Number we cannot name them.

The Governor said.

I will send for some of the Palentees or the Persons claiming that Land, and hear what they have to say, and Consider the matter and give you an answer before you leave this Place, It is agreeable to Justice to hear both Parties, before a Judgment is given, And to Manifest my Friendship for you I will do you all the Justice in my power

A true Copy Exam[d] by
Eyn[r] Burgar
D. C. of the Council.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the 28 June 1754.

Present
The Honble James DeLancey Esq[r]
Lieutenant Governor &c
W[m] Murray.
Col[o] Johnson.
W[m] Chambers.
W[m] Smith.

His Honour being informed that the Conajoharry or the upper Castle of the mohawk Indians, and Several Sachems of each of the other Five Nations, attended without, and desired to speak to him, they were Introduced with the Interpretor.

Hendrick their Speaker spoke as follows.

Brother.

We had a message from you some time ago to meet you at this Place where the Five Nations of Conajoharry Met

Met the Messanger you sent with a Letter at Col. Johnsons, and as Soon as we received it we came down running, and the Six Nations are now here compleat.

The Governor then said.

Brethren of the Six Nations you are Welcome: I take this Opportunity now you are all together to Condole the Loss in the Death of your Friends & Relations, since you last met here, and with this String of Wampum Wipe away your tears, and take Sorrow from your hearts, that you may open your minds and Speak freely.

A String of Wampum.

Hendrick Replyed,

Brother.

We thank you for Condoling our Loss, and Wiping away our Tears that we may Speak freely, and as we do not doubt but you have lost some of your Great Men, and Friends, we give you this String of Condolance in Return, that it may remove your Sorrow, and that we May both Speak freely. Gave a String.

Then Hendrick addressing himself to the six Nations Said, That last year he attended Col. Johnson to Onondaga, to do Service to the King and their People. That Col. Johnson told them a new Governor was expected Soon, and they would then have an Opportunity of seeing him, at Albany, and laying their Grievances before him.

That the new Governor arrived soon after, and Scarcely had they heard of his arrival but they had an account of his Death, and that now he was glad to see his Honour to whom he would Declare his Grievances, and then Proceeded.

Brother

We thought you would wonder why we of Connajoharry staid so long, we shall now give you the reason, last Summer we of Connajoharry were down at New-York to make our Complaints, and we then thought the Covenant Chain was broken because we were neglected, and when you neglect Business

The

The French take advantage of it; for they are never quiet.

It seemed to us that the Governor had turned his back upon the five Nations, as if they were no more, whereas the French are doing all in their Power to draw us over to them.

We told the Governor last Summer, we blamed him for the neglect of the five Nations, and at the same time we told him, the French were drawing the Five Nations away to Oswegatchie, owing to that neglect, which might have been prevented, if proper use had been made of that warning; but now we are afraid it is too late), we remember how it was in former times when we were a strong and Powerful People Col. Schuyler used frequently to come among us, and by this means we were kept together.

Brother

We the mohawks are in very difficult Circumstances, and are blamed for things behind our backs which we dont deserve; Last Summer when I went up with Col. Johnson to Onondaga, and he made his Speech to the five Nations, the Five Nations said they liked his Speech very well. but that the mohawks had made it; We are looked upon by the other Nations, as Col. Johnson's Councellors, and supposed to hear all news from him, which is not the Case for Col. Johnson does not receive from, or impart much news to us; This is our reason for staying behind for if we had come first, the other Nations would have said that we made the Governor's Speech, and therefore tho we were resolved to come, We intended the other Nations should go before us, that they might hear the Governor's Speech, which we could hear afterwards.

There are some of our People who have large open Ears and talk a little broken English and Dutch, So that they sometimes hear what is said by the Christian Settlers near them, and by this means we came to understand that we are looked upon to be a Proud Nation, and therefore stay behind Tis true and known we are so, and that we the mohawks are the head of all the other Nations, here they are and they must

own

Own it, But it was not out of Pride we Commajohary
Staid behind, but for the Reasons we have already given.

His Honour Answered.

Brethren of Commajohary.

You have now told me the reason why you staid behind, because you would not be blamed by other Nations as you have been before, I am Satisfyd with what you say that your Stayeing behind did not proceed from Pride.

You tell me you have large open Ears and that you understand a little of the Language of the Fellers about you. But I must caution you not to hearken to Common Reports, neither of us or your Brethren of the other Nations, I desire that we may all speak freely, and open our hearts to each other, and so remove any Jealousies from amongst us.

I hope that at another Interview, you will all be more punctual, and keep as near as you can to the time appointed. You are sensible it must be very Inconvenient to me, and the Commissioners from the other Governments, to be detained so long in this Place, at so great a Distance from our Homes.

A True Copy Examind by
Gov. Burnyas
Dep Secy

A motion was made that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies. Which was agreed to, and that the Gentlemen who were appointed to prepare & receive Plans or Schemes for the union of the Colonies the 29th. Inst. Should be a Committee for this purpose.

The Plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated but the Board came to no Resolves upon it.

Adjourned to nine O Clock to morrow morning

Mo

At a meeting in the Court House at Albany on Tuesday the 2d. July 1754. A. M.

Present
All the Commiss.rs from Massachusets bay, New-Hampshire. Connecticut. Rhode Island Pensilvania. & Mary Land. —

After the Debates held on the Plan of an union, it was moved, if the Board should proceed to form the Plan of a Union of the Colonies to be established by an Act of Parliam.t

Whereupon it was moved to put the Previous Question which passed in the Negative.

The Question was then put whether the Board should proceed to form a Plan of a Union of the Colonies to be Established by Act of Parliament — which passed in the Affirmative,

Adjourned to 3 O'Clock in the afternoon.

At a meeting as aforesaid on Tuesday the 2d. July 1754. P. M.

Present.
The Lieut.t Governor, and the four Gentlemen of the Council of New York. — And all the Commiss.rs from the several Gov.rs above mentioned.

The Answer of the Six Nations to the General Speech made to them on Saturday last by His Honour the Lieut.t Governor of New-York, in His Majesty's Name, And in the Presence, and behalf of the several Government.s on the Continent therein Named, was read, and is as follows.

Abraham, a Sachem of the upper Castle of the Mohawks rose up and said.

Brethren

You the Govern.r of New York, and the Commiss.rs of the other Government.s are you ready to hear us.

The Governor replyed they were all ready.

Then Hendrick Brother to the said Abraham, and a Sachem of the said Castle, rose up, and spoke in behalf of the Six Nations as follows.

Brethren.

Brethren, Just now you told us, you were ready to hear us, hearken to me.

Brother Corlaer, and Brethren of the other Govermt.

Saturday last you told us that you came here by Order of the Great King our Common Father, and in his Name, to renew the Ancient Chain of Friendship, between this and the other Governmt. on the Continent and us the Six united Nations, and you said also that there were then present, Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay New Hampshire, Conecticot, Rhode Island, Pensilvania, & Maryland, And that Virginia and Carolina desired to be considered also as present.

We rejoice that by the Kings Orders we are all met here this day, and are glad to see each other Face to Face, We are very thankfull for the same, and we look upon the Governors of South Carolina & Virginia as also present.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren

We thank you in the most hearty manner for your Condolance Love, we also Condole all your Friends & Relations, who have died Since our last meeting here.

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum.

Brethren holding the Chain Belt given by His Honour & the Several Govr. in his hand.

We return you all our grateful acknowledgm. to for renewing & brightning the Covenant Chain; This Chain Belt is of very great Importance to our United Nations, and all our Allies, we will therefore take it to Onondaga, where our Council Fire always Burns, and keep it so (securely) that neither Thunder nor Lightning shall break it; There we will Consult over it; and as we have lately added Two links to it, so we will use our Endeavours to add as many more to it as lyes in our Power; and we hope when we show you this Belt again, we shall give you reason to rejoyce at it, by your Seeing the Covenant

In

Must fill'd up, (referring to Their Honours explanation of it in the General Speech) In the mean time we desire that you will Strengthen yourselves, and bring as many into this Covenant Chain as you Possibly Can.

We do Now solemnly renew and brighten the Coven.[t] Chain with our Brethren here present, and all our other absent Brethren on the Continent.

Brethren.

As to the Rumours you have heard of our being Dispersed from each other its very true.

We have Several times endeavoured to draw off these our Brethren who are Settled at Ouwegatie but in vain, for the Gov.[r] of Canada is like a Wicked Deluding Spirit: however as you desire we shall persist in our Endeavours.

You have asked us the Reason of our living in this Dispersed manner, the Reason is, your neglecting us for these three years past (then taking a Stick and throwing it behind his back) You have thus thrown us behind your Back and disregarded us, whereas the French are a Subtle and Vigilant people, ever using their utmost Endeavours to Seduce, and bring our People over to them. Gave a Belt

Brethren

As to the Encroachments of the French, and what you have said to us on that Article in Behalf of the King our Father, As these matters were laid before us as of great Importance, so we have made a Strict Enquiry amongst all our People if any of them have either Sold or given the French leave to build the Forts you mention, and we cannot find that either any Sale has been made, or Leave has been given, but the French have gone thither without our Consent or approbation nor ever mentioned it to us.

Brethren

The Governor of Virginia, and the Gov: of Canada are both Quarreling about Lands which belong to us, and such a Quarrel as this may end in our Destruction, They fight

Who

Who shall have the Land. The Governors of Virginia and Pensilvania have made Paths thro our Country to Trade and built Houses without acquainting us with it; they should first have asked our Consent to build there, as was done when Onarego was built, (Gave a Belt.)

Brethren It is very True as you told us that the Clouds hang heavy over us, and it is not very pleasant to look up; But we give you this Belt (Giving a Belt) to Clear away all Clouds that we may live in Bright Sunshine and keep together in a Strict Union & Friendship, then we shall become Strong and nothing can hurt us,

Brethren This is the Ancient Place of Treaty where the Fire of Friendship always used to Burn, and it is now three yeare since we have been called to any publick Treaty here, Tis true there are Commissioners here, but they have never invited us to Smoak with them, (by which they mean the Commiss.rs had never invited them to any Conference) But the Indians of Canada, come frequently & smoak here which is for the sake of their Beaver, but we hate them (meaning the French Indians) we have not as yet Confirmed the Peace with them. Tis your Trust Brethren that we are not Strengthen'd by Conquest, for we would have gone and taken Crown Point, but you hindered us tho we had Concluded to go and take it, but we were told it was too late, and that the Ice would not bear us. Instead of this you burnt your own Fort at Saraghtoga and run away from it, which was a Shame & Scandal to you. Look about your Country & see, you have no Fortifications about you, no not even to this City, tis but one Step from Canada hither, and the French may Easily come & turn you Out of your Doors.

Brethren. You Desired us to Speak from the Bottom of our hearts, and we shall do it. Look about you, and see all these houses full of Beaver, and the money is all

Gone

Gone to Canada, Likewise Powder, Lead and Guns which the French now make use of at Ohio.

Brethren. The goods which go from hence to Onego go from thence to Ohio which further Enables the French to Carry on their Designs at the Ohio.

Brethren. You were desirous that we should open our minds and our hearts to you, Look at the French, they are men, they are Fortifying every where – But, we are ashamed to say it; you are all like women bare and open without any fortifications.

Here Hendrick ended his Speech. his Brother Abraham then rose up and said.

Brethren.

We would let you know what was our Desire three Years ago when Col. Johnson laid down the management of Indian Affairs, which gave us great uneasiness, the Governor then told us it was not in his Power to Continue him, but that he would Consult with the Council at New-York, that he was going over to England & promised to recommend our desire that Col. Johnson should have the management of Indian affairs to the King, that the new Governor might have Power to reinstate him, we long waited in Expectation of this being done but hearing no more of it, we Embrace this Opportunity of laying this Belt (& gave a Belt) before all our Brethren here present, and desire them that Col. Johnson may be reinstated and have the management of Indian Affairs, for we all lived happy whilst they were under his management, for we love him, and he us, and he has always been our good, and trusty Friends,

Brethren

I forgot something. We think our request about Col. Johnson, which Gov. Clinton promised to carry to the King our Father is drowned in the Sea, the Fire here is burnt out, And (turning his Face to the New York Commiss. of Indian Affairs at Albany who were then present) desired them to take notice of what he said.

Which

Which answer from the Indians was debated Paragraph by Paragraph, and those Gentlemen who were appointed a Committee to prepare a General Speech the 19th Ult.o were now appointed to draw up a Reply.

Adjourned till to morrow morning at 9 OClock.

At a meeting in the Court-House at Albany on Wednesday the 3d July 1754. — A.M.

Present

John Chamblew and
William Smith Esq.rs of the
Council of New York.
Samuel Welles, John Chandler and Oliver Partridge Esq.rs
Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay.
Theodore Atkinson & Richard Wibbird Esq.rs Commiss.rs
from New Hampshire. The Commiss.rs from Connecticot.
Martin Howard Esq.r a Commissioner from Rhode Island.
All the Commissioners from Pensilvania.
Benjamin Tasker Esq.r one of the Commiss.rs from Maryland.

A Draught of the Reply proposed to be made to the Speech of the 6 Nations of the 1st inst. which the Committee appointed Yesterday afternoon had drawn up, was read,

Mr. Chamblew desired to Carry it to His Honour the Lieut.t Governor for his Opinion; — which was agreed to.

took their Seats at the Board.

His Honour the Lieut.t Governor.
Joseph Murray and W.m Johnson Esq.rs of the Council of N. York. Thomas Hutchinson and Jo.n Worthington Esq.rs
Commissioners for Massachusets Bay. Meschech Weare &
Henry Sherburn Esq.rs Commiss.rs for New Hampshire
Stephen Hopkins Esq.r one of the Commissioners from Rhode Isl.d
Abraham Barnes Esq.r one of the Commiss.rs from Maryland.

His Honour laid before the Board Several Matters, which he proposed to be inserted in the Reply to be made to the 6 Nations. which, together with the Draught from the Committee was read and debated.

The Commissioners from Pensilvania also laid before the Board an Addition in behalf of their Province and proposed it to be added to the Reply. The Comms. from Massachusets New Hampshire and Conecticot, proposed also some additions.

These Several Draughts being read & Considered the following Reply to the Six Nations was agreed upon by the Board.

Brethren. It gives us great pleasure to see you so ready to renew and brighten the Antient Chain of Friendship, we wish the farther extention of it, and shall not fail joyning our utmost Endeavours for that purpose.

Brethren We are sorry that any neglect have been shewn to you, and we hope that nothing of that kind will happen hereafter or any misunderstanding arise between you and any of His Majesty's Governments; You are our old and Steady Friends We assure you not one thought has ever come into our minds of rejecting you, our hearts have ever been warm towards you, and we now gladly meet and open our hearts to you; The Covenant is renewed, the Chain is brightened, the Tree burns Clear, and we hope all things will be pleasant on both sides for the future; A Belt.

Brethren We gladly understand that you gave no Countenance to the French, who went to Ohio, and have Entred on your Lands. They are always your & our open & Sworn Enemies, You did just this and under the Care of our Father, he is now taking Care to preserve it for you, for this End among others, he has directed us to meet you here; for although the Land is under the Kings Governments, yet the Property or Power of Selling it to any of His Majesty's Subjects having Authority from him, we always consider as vested in you.

Brethren You say that the Governor of Virginia & Canada, are fighting about Lands belonging to you, and that the Governor of Virginia and English have opened Roads and built Houses at Ohio.

What?

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

What you say is a great Surprize to us. we all know that for 5 years past, in the Face of all the Six Nations, in open Day Light, the French have been marching Troops into that Country, which we ever did and do Will acknowledge to belong to you, tho within your Father the King of Great Britain's Dominions, and under his Protection, and the French did Publish every where, their Designs to build Forts & Drive away the English Traders, and they did carry them into Execution by Seizing the Traders, and did last year actually build two Forts in that Country.

But we never heard notwithstanding these open Hostilities of the French, that ever Virginia or Pensilvania sent one Soldier or built one House for their or your Protection, till this present year.

It is fortunate that Mr. Weiser who transacts the publick Business of Virginia & Pensilvania, and is one of your Council & knows these matters well, is now present to hear the account he gives, and that will set this Matter in a true Light.

Brethren Mr. Weiser was to say as follows

The Road to Ohio is now the road the Shawanese & Delawares removed thither above thirty Years ago from Pensilvania, ever since which that Road has been Travelled by our Traders at their Invitation, & always with Safety, until within these few years, that the French with their usual Faithlessness sent Armies there, Threatened the Indians, & obstructed our Trade with them.

The Governor of Virginia Observing these Hostilities in time of Peace, sent his Majesty an Account of them, His Majesty was pleased to order his Gov.r to hold an Interview with the Six Nations to Consult measures with them how to put a Stop to these French Proceedings equally injurious to them, as to his Subjects, And that they might better know them.

It

It was thought ~~proper~~ the interview might best be held at some Place near the Country where their Hostile Proceedings were Carried on, His Majesty likewise ordered a Present to the Six Nations, as a farther token of his Affection for them. Accordingly Mr. Weiser in 1750. was sent to Onondaga by the Governor of Virginia, and invited the Indians to Come and treat at Friedericksburgh, in that Province, and receive the Kings present but could not prevail, The Governor of Virginia finding the French still Continuing their Hostilities sent Commissioners in 1751. to the Indians at Ohio, and Delivered them the Kings Present and by a Belt of Wampum proposed, that a Strong House might be built near the mouth of the Mohongahela, for their mutual Protection. The Indians made answer, that they were well pleased with the Proposal, and would send that Belt to Onondaga, and Join one of their own to it; Nothing was heard of this Belt; and the last year the French invaded the Country of Ohio, with a Strong hand, Whereupon the Indians suffering there your Flesh and Blood, sent repeated messages to the Gov. of Virginia, to send his Young men to their Assistance, but he being a Person of Great Sense thought, & Prudence still forbore to do it; and instead thereof sent two messengers by Mr. Andrew Montour, to Onondaga, for your advice how to Act. It happen'd that no Council could be called at either time & the Chiefs of Onondaga, desired Mr. Montour to tell their Brother the Governor of Virginia, to act Cautiously, and let the French Strike the first Blow. The French then coming nearer & nearer, Canachariesson, (otherwise called the Half King) was sent to them by the united Nations at Ohio, together with the Shawanese & Delawares to forewarn them of their Land. in the meantime other Chiefs of three Several Nations came to Virginia, and Pensilvania, & told us what they had agreed upon, in Council, to wit, That they the rest of the Chiefs should come to us and desire us to call our People from over the Alleghany Hills, to prevent Bloodshed between the English & French, But when these Indians returned, and found that the French paid no regard to their

Warning.

Warning but told them Positively that if they
Opposed their taking Possession of that Country, they
would Cut them off, They sent repeated messages to the
Governors of Pensilvania & Virginia, to apprize them of
their, the Indians Immediate Danger, telling them they
would find nothing but the Ashes of their Houses &
their bones, if they did not forthwith send ~~send~~ Warriors
& Build them a House to fly to, having a late Example
before their Eyes, in that the French had fallen upon
their Brethren, the Twightwees, on a Sudden, & Killed
them in their houses, as well as some English who were
then Trading with them,

On this Melancholy account the Governor of
Virginia agreeable to the Request of the Indians sent
People to Build a House at the mouth of Mohongahela,
but before they had finished it, the French came down
the River, with a Thousand Men and Eighteen
Cannon, and told the People who were building it, and
were but forty four in Number, that they must either
Fight or give up Possession which Last they were obliged
to do, on account of the Superior Force of the French,

Brethren This is the Truth, which we have
thought proper to relate so particularly that the Prudent
and Cautious Conduct of Virginia might be known to
the Six Nations, As to Pensilvania they have never
sent a Warrior, or built a Fort at Ohio, This Belt is
given to Confirm what is ++ said and that you
may remember what has been now related to you,

Here Mr Weiser's Relation ends, A Belt.

Brethren You told us we were open and Defence-
less we are Consulting how far it will be Necessary to
Satisfy our Friendship, At the same time we Expect you
take Care to keep your People from going over to the
French.

We are able when united with you to resist
Any.

Any Some the French & their Allies can bring against us.

The following Paragraphs were to be Spoken by the Governor of New-York in his own Name.

Brethren, you have told me, that this is the Place of Treaty, that it is now three years ago since you were asked to smoake a pipe here — that there are Commissioners, but they have never Invited you to Smoak with them.

It was their duty on their Appointment to acquaint you with it, and to Invite you to Smoak with them to rekindle the Fire, which was then almost Extinguished, and if they had done it Earlier and before I sent them Directions it would have been very agreeable to me.

Brethren. You say the Houses here are full of Beaver. This is a Trading Place, and the Merchants have a right to Traffick for Beaver, or other Skins, which they sometimes pay for in goods, & sometimes in money, but as to what you say about Guns, and powder being sold to the French, I have made all the Enquiry I could into this matter, and am assured you are misinformed, for that neither Guns nor Powder, are Sold by any Persons here to the French.

Brethren You tell me that When Col. Johnson had the management of Indian Affairs you all lived happy, that you loved him and he you, and that he has always been your good & Trusty Friend, I am very Sensible you had good Reason to look upon him, in this Light, and fully convinced that he is Still your Friend, but as this is the Place where the Ancient Fire was Kindled which was nearly Burnt out and as Col. Johnson for some Reasons declined the management of Indian Affairs, it was thought proper to rekindle the fire here, by appointing Commissr. whom I shall direct to receive and Consult with you upon all Business that may Concern our Mutual Interests, and expect that you will for the future apply to them according to the Custom of your Fore Fathers, to tell your News, and to return to receive from them what shall be thought necessary to be imparted to you, and I will give them Directions that they

Treat

Treat you, with the Affection due to you as Brethren. I will make Trial of them another year and if you do not meet with the Kind Treatment you have a right to Expect, Complain to this Governm.t and Effectual measures shall be taken for your Satisfaction,

Gave a Belt.

The following was to be Spoken by Mr. Hillegg, Interpreter from Massachusets-bay.

Brethren

We have agreed to tell all News and take Council together, we cannot part, till we have told you the News from New England, tho at a Considerable Distance, from you, The French have the same bad Designs there, as well as at Ohio, they are very fond to get Kennybec River, we have News of their Beginning a Fort at the head of that River a Priest of theirs has built a House a Great way down that River, Governor Shirley has raised 800 men, and is gone down to drive them away, and to build an English Fort, at the head or far up the said River Kennybec. — We have news also that the French are building a Fort up Connecticut River, Northward of Cowass; the Governor of New Hampshire, has now sent a Company of Men up that River to Enquire into that Fact, and if true to drive them Immediately off. in another part of the Governm.t of New Hampshire, a Number of the St Francis Indians, have lately taken a Family consisting of a Man and his Wife, and three Children, and carryed them into Captivity from an out Settlement on Merris-mack River, and this Contrary to their Solemn Engagements at a Treaty held with them.

We have also News, that a Number of Indians had murdered twenty one English Fishermen at Canso, and had Carried their Cargo's to Cape Breton where they were well Received, and Incouraged.

The Board then Adjourned till to morrow morning 10 Clock

do

A Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Thursday the 4th July 1754 ... A M.

Present.
The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.
All the Commiss.rs for the Several Governments.

The Plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated but nothing Finally Determined on,

Adjourned to 3 O Clock this Afternoon,

A Meeting as above Thursday the 4th July 1754 ... P M

Present.
All the Commissrs.
for the Several Governments.

The Plan for a Union was further Considered but no Resolves made thereupon,

The Board receiving a Message from His Honour the Lieut. Governor, of New York, that the Indians were ready in order to Speak to His Honour & the Commissioners.

The Board adjourned to 9 o Clock to morrow morning, and waited upon the Governor.

A Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Fryday the 5th July 1754 A. M.

Present
All the Commiss.rs for the
Several Governments

The Rejoinder of the Six Nations spoke Yesterday Afternoon was read, to the Board, Ordered to be minuted as follows

{The following Speech is Chiefly a Rejoinder to the Reply made to the Six Nations on the 3. inst.}

Brother of New York,
Brethren of the Several Governments.

We on our side are Equally as much rejoiced as you have

Have expressed yourselves on the renewing and
brightening the Ancient Covenant Chain between all
His Majesties Governments on the Continent. Lies
of the Six United Nations,

As to what the Governor of New York told us,
Yesterday relating to the Commissioners of Indian
Affairs at Albany, we are much Obliged to him for his
promise to direct them to take due Notice of us for the
future, that he will buy them for one Year longer, &
for giving us leave to acquaint this Government, if they
do not treat us as Brethren,

Brethren. We have told the Governor of New York
how Col. Johnson has behaved to us, and our Opinion
of him, and the danger we thought ourselves in by
his Leaving off the Management of Indian affairs, if
he fails us we die, — however we agree to what the
Governor has proposed to us, — he is Master of all to do
what he pleases, and we Submit the Whole Affair to him

Gave a Belt

Brethren,

We are very thankful to the King our Father
for ordering Commissioners from so many Governments to
meet here, in order to enquire into all matters relating to us
and to put every thing upon right footing. we rejoice
that we have opened our hearts to each other, and we return
the Gov.r & all the Commiss.rs from the Several Governments
our Thanks for the Same.

Brethren,

Some time ago the King our Father sent
a Present to the Governor of Virginia, who sent a Messenger
to the Six Nations that we should Come down to Virginia,
and receive it, but we could not come, we have since been
Informed that the present was sent to Ohio (the Speaker
then proceeded to repeat the Substance of what was said to
them Yesterday on the Part of the Governm.t of Virginia
& Pensylvania by their Interpreter Mr. Weiser)

We

C

His Honour The Lieut Governor, explained this Belt to them in the following manner.

"Brethren

This represents the King our common Father — This line represents the arms extended, embracing all us the English & all the Six Nations — These represent the Colonies which are here present & those who desire to be thought present — These represent the Six Nations, and there is a space left to draw in the other Indians — And there in the Middle is the line represented which draws us all in under The King our Com=mon Father."

The foregoing Explanation having been given by His Honour at the time of his delivering the Speech, doth not appear in the Proceedings of the Congress, but stands in the Records of Indian Affairs and is therefore supplied in this manner.

Eld Norwell

Sec. for Indian affairs

Page (s)
Missing ?

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The Board having ordered this Rejoinder of the Six Nations to be only so far recorded in their Proceedings, the Remainder of their said Rejoinder is by Order of His Honour the Lieut Governor supplied after this manner from the Records of Indian Affairs, that these Proceedings of the Congress, may compleat all that passed at the Public Conferences with the Indians-

The remainder of their said Speech is as follows. "Brethren

There is an Affair about which our Hearts tremble & our Minds are deeply concerned, This is the selling of Rum in our Castles. It destroys many both of our old & young People

We request of all the Governments here present, that it may be forbidden to carry any Rum amongst the Five Nations.

Brethren We are in great Fears about this Rum, it may cause Murder on both sides— We dont want it to be forbid to be sold in Albany, but that none may be brought to our Castles. The Cayouges now declare in their own Names, that they will not allow any Rum to be brought up their River & therefore do must take the Consequences

Brethren We the Mohawks of both Castles

Castles have also one Request to make, which is, that the People who are settled round about us may not be suffered to sell our People Rum, it keeps them all Poor - makes them Idle & wicked - if they have any Money or Goods they lay it all out in Rum, it destroys Virtue & the Progress of Religion amongst us. (the lower Castle & the Mohawks have a Chapel & an English Missionary belonging to it)

We have a friendly request to make to the Governor & all the Commissioners here present - that they will help us to build a Church at Connojohery, and that we may have a Bell in it, which together with the putting a stop to the selling of Rum, will tend to make us Religious & lead better lives than we do now.

Brethren We have now fully opened our Hearts to you, except about the Land belonging to the Connojoherys which caused us to go down to New York last year. The Governor knows what our Complaint is, & we now desire to know when that affair will be settled, as it was promised that Satisfaction should be given us on that Article.

Here Hendrick ended his Speech

Mr Penn one of the Commissioners from Pensilvania declared that himself in conjunction with the other Commissioners for that Government were about purchasing from the Six Nations

a

A Tract of Land within the Boundaries of the said
Government below the Latitude 42. — And the
Indians also then published their Intention of
making the said Sale at the Commissioners lodgings

The Governor spoke to the Indians
and told them

That as to what they had said about Rum,
he would give them an Answer to morrow morning,
that he had received a Present for them from the King
their Father, and another from this Government,
which he would give them to morrow morning,
when he would also give them an Answer to those
other particulars which required one. As I have
given you satisfaction with respect to one of your
Complaints about your Land, and you have con-
=sented that an Enquiry into any other shall be
deferred until I arrive at New York, I shall not
now say any thing further to you on that Affair.

Extracted from the
Records of Indian
Affairs by
me Ebenezer Allen
Sec.ry

We allow that the Road from Pensilvania to Ohio is no New Road, but has been Traveled ye these 30 years by the Traders

We Thank the Governor of Virginia for assisting the Indians at Ohio, who are our Relations & Allies, and we approve of the Gov. of Pensilvania's not having hitherto intermeddled in this Affair he is a Wise and prudent Man, and will know his own Time,

We also Thank the Governor of New York, and all the other Governments our most hearty thanks, (here the Speaker made Bows to his Honour and all the Commissioners) for the promise of protection given us, of our Lands, and the acknowledgment that the Right of Selling it is in us, (Gave a Belt)

Brethren.

We put you in mind in our former Speech of the Defenceless State of your Frontiers, particularly of that City, of Schenectady, and of the Country of the Five Nations You told us Yesterday you were Consulting about Securing both yourselves and us, — We beg you will Resolve upon something Speedily — you are not Safe from Danger one day. — The French have their hatchet in their hands, both at Ohio, and in Two places in New England. — We dont know but this very Night they may attack us, One of the principal Reasons why we desire you will be Speedy in those Matters is, that since Col. Johnson, has been in this City, there has been a French Indian at his house, who took measure of the Hall & round it and made very narrow Observations on every thing thereabouts, We think him (Col. Johnson) in very great Danger because the French will take more than ordinary pains either to kill him or, take him Prisoner, upon account of his great Interest among us, and being also one of the Five Nations (Col. Johnson is one of their Sachems). Upon this they gave 4 Strings of Wampum.

The Board then Proceeded to consider the Plan for a Union, but did not go thro with it.

Adjourned to 9 O Clock to morrow morning

No.

At a Meeting held in the
Court House at Albany on
Saturday the 6th July 1754. A.M.

Present
All the Commiss.rs
for Massachusets-bay.
William Pitkin & Roger Wolcott
Esq.rs Commiss.rs for Conecticut
The Commissioners for Rhode Island
John Penn, Isaac Norris & Benjamin Franklin Esq.rs
Commiss.rs for Pennsilvania.
The Commissioners for Maryland.

His Honour the Lieut.t Governor sent to the
Board the Speech he proposes to make to the River
Indians, which the Board agreed to with a small
Addition, which was sent in Writing to his Honour.

The Board having been informed by Mr Elders
"that the Lieut.t Gov.r of New York, sent for him last
"Night, and told him, his Provisions were expended,
"and he Could no longer maintain the Indians, and
"Expected the Commiss.rs would maintain them, and gave
"him the List of what he had been Allowed, a Day to
"the Five Nations, Exclusive of the River Indians.—

The Board hereupon Resolved That they
would take the Charge of Supporting the Indians
upon themselves.—

Messrs Weare & Henry Sherburne Esq.r Commiss.rs
for New Hampshire, took their Seats,

The Committee appointed, the 1.st inst to draw
up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies
with Relation to the French delivered the same to the
Board, which was read, and Ordered to lye upon
the Table for the Consideration of the Commissioners.

The Secr.y presented to the Board a Draught
of the Speech which his Honour proposed to Deliver
to the Six Nations this Afternoon, And also the following
Message from his Honour. — "that the Board would
"please to send him any Alterations or additions which

They

Shell might think proper to be made to the said Draught
—That His Honour, intended when he made the Speech, to read to
them the Act of the General Assembly of New York concerning
the Sale of Rum to the Indians, and that he also recommended
the request of the upper Castle of the mohawks for a Church to
the Board."

The Secret.y also brought back his Honour's Approbat.n
to the small addition proposed to be made to the Speech intended
to be made to the River Indians, which Speech is as follows.

"Brethren. I have sent for you here to give you
fresh Assurances of the Great King Your Father's Protection and
that we might with the Commissioners whom you now see
assembled here from the Governments of Massachusetts Bay
New Hampshire, Connecticot, Rhode Island, Pensilvania, and
Maryland, Strengthen and Brighten the Covenant Chain.

We are glad to see you at this your Old meeting place and
we do now in his Majesties Name, and in behalf of all the Colo-
nies renew the Ancient Covenant Chain of Friendship, that
it may be Stronger & Brighter than ever, which we recommend to
you to preserve, Clean & free from Rust, by a Peaceable and
affectionate Behaviour to all your Brethren, and especially to
those who live near you, and you may then with Confidence rely
on the favour of this, and all his Majesties Governments

As a proof of the King Your Father's Tender Regard
for you, I shall Deliver you a Present he has sent over for
you, Consisting of such necessaries as you may want. And
the Commissioners from each of the Governm.ts have Contributed
towards a present for you also, All which presents shall be
here ready for you in the afternoon.

Elisha Williams Esq.r
A Commiss.r for Conecticot took his Seat

On a Motion made and Seconded that a message be sent
to his Honour the Lieut.t Governor of New York relating to
the answer he proposes to make to the Five Nations &c.
Hutchinson & Mr. Franklin were appointed to prepare the same.

Theodore.

Theodore Atkinson &
Richard Wibird Esq.r Commiss.rs for New Hampshire took their Seats, & did also Richard Peters Esq.r one of the Commiss.rs for Pensilvania,

W.m Hutchinson reported the Following Message

May it please your Honour.

The Commiss.rs from the Several Governments now Met at Albany, Observe that in the Speech your Honour proposes to make this Day to the Indians of the Six Nations, and which you have Caused to be Communicated to the Board by their Secretary, No Notice is taken of the Complaints of the said Indians, relating to their Lands. This Complaint arose by the Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, wch your Honour has Laid before the Board to have been the Principal Occasion of this unusual & Expensive Meeting of Commissioners from so many Colonies, And it appears by the Last Answer from the Indians, that their Uneasiness Still remains.

The Commissioners therefore think it incumbent on them, to pray your Honour that they may be acquainted with the Particulars of the Complaint, and that they may have an Opportunity of Consulting with your Honour, Proper measures for removing the Causes thereof,

Which was read and unanimously agreed to

And it was thereupon Ordered that Mr. Weiser & Mr. Kilbin, wait upon His Honour the Lieut.t Governor of New York, with the same.

Adjourned to 3. O Clock this Afternoon,

At a Meeting on Saturday the 6th July 1754 -- P.M.

Pres.t

Present

All the Commiss.rs from Massachusets-bay
All the Commiss.rs from New Hampshire
The Commiss.rs from Conecticut
Stephen Hopkins Esq.r One of the Commiss.rs from Rhode Island

Mr. Wells reported to the Board that he and Mr. Bithen had Delivered the message they were appointed in the morning to deliver to His Honour the Lieut. Governor of New-York,

The four Gentlemen of the Council of New York
Marten Howard Esq.r Benjamin Franklin & } both their Seals.
Abraham Bannel Esq.r ... — ——— ... ———

Mr. Murray delivered at the Board his Honour the Lieut. Governors Answer in writing to the message Delivered to His Honour this morning by Mr. Wells and Mr. Bithen, which was read, and is as follows,

Gentlemen.

In answer to your Message to me of this day I acquaint you, that Yesterday I had the Sachems of the Connajoharry Castle before me in Council, to conclude the matter in Controversy between some Germans, and one Heady Hagin, relating to an Indian Purchase that had occasioned the greatest uneasiness amongst the Indians of that Castle, which after two meetings, was then formally and finally settled to the Satisfaction of all Parties.

I then took Occasion to observe to them, that at their meeting on the 2.d inst. I desired them to open their minds fully, and that I expected they would then have laid all their Complaints before me, That as to what they had mentioned in their Publick Speech, on the 4.th inst. I was not acquainted with any other particular Complaints until I came to this place being Aboard on the Circuit, at the time they made them at New York, and then I promised as Soon as I returned thither I would look into them, and do all the Justice that lay in my Power with which they Declared themselves well Satisfied & thanked me.

Albany 6.th July 1754. James DeLancey

The

The Board being Obliged to attend at the Interview of the Tehaliwoh & River Indians adjourned to monday morning at 9 Oclock

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William Johnson &
Wm Smith Esqr of the
Council of New York
&
All the Commissioners

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Monday the 8th July 1754 — A. M.

The Speech proposed by his Honour to be made to the Indians of the six Nations having been again read to the Board, and the Complaint of the Indians relative to their Lands coming under their Consideration, The Board were acquainted that Mr William Livingston & Mr William Alexander, two of the Heirs or Devisees of Philip Livingston Esqr deceased, the Proprietors or Patentees of the Lands on which Canajoharry Castle stands, had declared their readiness to give up all right to said Patents or such parts as shall be thought necessary, it was ordered that said Mr Livingston & Mr Alexander be informed that the Board desired to speak with them,

Mr Livingston & Mr Alexander being present informed the Board that their Father was one among other Patentees of the Lands mentioned, that they were interested 1/8 each of them in their Fathers Right, The Circumstances of his Estate they had made no Enquiry into, but were ready to make any resignation which either Justice or the Public Service required,

The Board being informed that his Honour the Lieut Governor desired a Gentleman from each Government might be appointed to be present with him in making Enquiry of the Indians of the Canajoharry Castle how far they were Satisfyed respecting their Lands, Mr Pitts & Mr Howard were appointed to wait on His Honour & acquainted him that the Board agreed to the Proposal

Accordingly.

Accordingly

Mr Partridge was appointed ..... for Massachusetts Bay.
Col Atherton ..... for New Hampshire.
Col Wolcott ..... for Connecticut.
Mr Hopkins ..... for Rhode Island.
Mr Norris ..... for Pensilvania.
Col Tasker ..... for Maryland.

Joseph Murray & John Chambers Esqrs of the Council of New-York, took their Seats,

His Honour Draught of the Speech he proposes to make to the Nations which was Delivered to the Board, the first was read, and after debate had thereon, relative to the Sale of Rum amongst them and the Commissioners desire about a Church some Alterations & additions to't were agreed to be proposed to his honour.

The Representation of the present State of the Colonies was again read, through, but no final Resolution thereon agreed to

The Answer of the Staakbridge & River Indians to the Speech made them the 6th inst were read, and is as follows.

The Speech of the Staakbridge Indians.

Father. We are glad that the Governor sees his Children now before him, we are Small in number, but we all love ~~Peace~~ us hope we shall be more, Elder Brother may be that we are but Young Unexperienced, Our Ancient People being almost all Dead So that we have no body to give us any advice, but we will do as our Fathers have done before us. Gave a Belt.

Father, This Belt came from our fore fathers, and we will be true & faithful to the King as they were,

Gave a Belt ( )

They also gave to the Governor a Small Bundle of Skins & desired that the Sale of Rum might be Stopped, at Staakbridge, and that if they want it they will come and buy it at Albany.

The Speech of the River Indians.

Fathers We are greatly rejoyced to see you all here. It is by the Will of Heaven that we are met here, and we thank you for this Opportunity of seeing you all together, as it is a long time since we have had such a one

Fathers.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Father who Sit present here, we will just give you a Short Relation of the Long Friendship, which hath Subsisted, between the White people of this Country & Our Fore fathers first a Castle on this River, as one of them walked out he Saw Something on the River, but was at a loss to know what it was, he took it at first for a great fish, he ran into the Castle, and gave Notice to the other Indians, two of our Fore fathers went to see what it was and found it a Vessel, with men in it, they Immediately Joyned hands with the People in the Vessel & became Friends, The White People told them they should not Come any further up the River at that time, and said to them they would return back from whence they came & come again in a years time, according to their Promise they returned back in a years time, and came as far up the River, as where the old Fort Stood, Our Fore fathers invited them a Shore, and said to them, here we will give you a Place to make you a Town, it shall be from this place up to such a Stream, (meaning where the Statroom's Mill now Stands) and from the River back up to the Hill, Our Fore fathers told them they were now a Small People, they would in time multiply and fill up the Land they had given them, After they were a Shore some time, some other Indians, who had not seen them before, looked fiercely at them, and our Fore fathers observing it and seeing the White People so few in number lest they should be destroyed, took and Sheltered them under their Arms; but it turned out that these Indians did not desire to destroy them, but wished also to have the said White People for their Friends, at this time which we have now Spoken of the White people were Small, but we were very numerous & Strong, we Defended them in that low State; but now the case is altered, you are numerous and Strong, we are few & weak, therefore we expect that you will Act by us in these Circumstances, as we did by you in those we have just now related, we view ye now as a very large Tree, which has taken deep root, in the Ground whose

Branches

Branches are Spread very wide, we Stand by the Body of this Tree, and we look round to see if there be any who endeavour to hurt it, And if it should so happen that any are powerfull enough to destroy it, we are ready to fall with it. Gave a Belt.

Fathers, You see how early we made friendship with you, we tied each other in a very Strong Chain, that Chain has never yet been broken, we now Clean and Rub that Chain, to make it brighter, and Stronger, and we determine on our part, that it never shall be broken, and we hope you will take Care that neither you nor any one else shall break it, and we are greatly rejoyced that Peace, and friendship, have so long subsisted between us,

Gave a Belt

Fathers,

Dont think Strange at what we are about to Say, We would say Something respecting our Lands when the White people purchased from time to time of us, they said they only wanted to purchase the Low Lands, they told us the Hilly Land was good for nothing, and that it was full of Wood, and Stones, but now we see People living all about the Hills & woods, altho they have not purchased the Lands, — when we enquire of the People who live on the Lands, what right they have to them, they reply to us that we are not to be regarded, and that these Lands belong to the King, but we were the first Possessors of them, and when the King has paid us for them, then they may say they are his, hunting now is grown very Scarce, and we are not like to get our Living that way, Therefore we hope our Fathers will take Care that we are paid for our Lands, that we may Live,

make a Present of a Bundle of Skins Gave a Belt

At a meeting on Monday the 8th July 1754 ... P.M.

Pres.t
All the Commiss.rs except
Ed.d Atkinson, Mr. Norris
and the Commissioners for Maryland.

The Board proceeded in their Consideration upon the Plan for a Union, but did not go through with it.

The

The Speech proposed to be made to the Six Nations now returned to the Board from His Honour, with the Alterations & additions proposed by the Board in the morning

Ordered, That the said Speech lay upon the Table till some further matters relating to it be agreed on by the Board.

The Committee appointed in the morning to be present with the Lieut. Gov.r of the York at a Conference with the Connagohany Indians returned from the Same, & reported as follows.

That His Honour enquired of the Indians whether they had not Expressed themselves satisfyed with the measures he had taken Concerning their Lands. and the Promise that he would enquire further into the affair, when he Came to New York, to which they replyed, That they were sensible his Honour was at Albany when they made their Complaint at New York last year, - That he had told them he had now left the Papers there, but would enquire into it when he came there, - That they were willing to lay one Year more, and if matters were not made by the Gov.r whom they looked upon as their elder Brother, but neglected as they used to be, They would send to all their other Brethren, (pointing to the Commissioners, for their Assistance, and that they agreed to this the rather, as there were French Indians in Town, and they did not think it Convenient to have any Difference before them upon which His Honour again assured them, he would Enquire into their Affairs in Order to their being Satisfyed, Especially as he had the Kings Orders for it.

The Board receiving a Message from His Honour that the Sachems of the Six Nations were attending to be Spoke to.

The Board adjourned to 9 O'Clock to morrow morning & waited upon the Governor

&c.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Thursday the 9th July 1754. — A.M.

Present
Joseph Murray Esq.
William Smith Esq.rs of the Council of New York and the Commiss.rs except Col.o Partridge & Mr. Hopkins. — Public

The Conference between His Honour the Lieu.t Governor, of New-York, and the Commiss.rs from the Several Governments, with the Sachems of the Six Nations Yesterday Evening was read, and ordered to be entred as follows.

Brethren You told me your hearts were deeply Concerned, at the sad Effects which may arise from Rum in your respective Countries, I will give orders that the Laws already made for preventing the Sale of this Liquor among you shall be strictly put in Execution, and whatever further Provision in the Law is Necessary, I will endeavour it shall be made that you may be Safe & take care of your Health and your Trade, wch are hurt & disturbed by the use of this Liquor among you, of the Five upper Nations, And as to what you of the Mohawks have said, I shall consider how far it may be necessary to restrain the People living around you, from selling rum, and if I can think of a Proper Remedy for this Evil, I will endeavour to apply it;

Brethren of the upper Castle of the Mohawks.

I am well pleased with your Earnest request to have a Church built amongst you, and shall do every thing in my Power to promote so good a work, and it is very agreeable to me, and the Commissioners, from all the Governments present to find a Disposition in you to receive the Christian Religion.

Brethren, As I have given you Satisfaction with Respect to one of your Complaints, about your Lands, which lay heavy on your minds, and have assured you that I shall Endeavour to do you Justice as to the rest when I come to New-York, I shall not say anything further to you on that Affair Now.

The

The Governor being informed by the Interpreter, that they spoke desired to have the Border divided on the Hill, told them it was in his Opinion, better for them to have it left to Schenectady,

Hendrick Answered for them, giveing his Honour pleased, who told them he would enter the Border to Schenectady, and the Rum above the Settlements, with which they Expressed themselves Satisfyed,

His Honour then said.

I have now done Speaking to you, but before I cover up the Fire, I must Recommend it to you to behave Quietly and peaceably to all your Brethren & their Cattle in your return home;

Hendrick then Replyed.

Your Honour told us you now covered up the Fire, and we are highly pleased, that all things have been so Amicably Settled, and hope that all that has passed between us may be Strictly observed, on both Sides, —

Brethern, of the Several Governments,

We hope that you will not fail in the Covenant Chain, wherewith we are mutually bound ourselves, and now Solemnly renewed and Strengthened.

If we do not hold fast by this Chain of Friendship, Our Enemies will laugh us to Scorn,

Brethren We wish you would all Contribute to Provide some Provisions, for us, in our way home, which will Effectually prevent our people from killing the Inhabitants Cattle, and we desire you will provide some Waggons for us to go to Stoneclady; We think this Expence, will fall too heavy upon one province, as we have the Presents from all to Carry up.

We beg we may all take care of the Fire of Friendship, and preserve it by our mutual Attention from any Injuries, We will take care of it on our sides, and we hope our Brethren will do so on theirs. we wish this Tree of Friendship may grow up to a great height, and then we shall be a Powerful People,

Brethren.

Brethren

We the united Nations shall rejoyce in the Increase of our Strength, & that all other Nations may Stand in awe of us,

Brethren

I will Just tell you what a People we were formerly, if any of our Enemies rose against us, we had no occasion to Lift up our Whole hand against them, for our little finger was Sufficient, and as we have now made so Strong a Confederacy, if we are truly earnest therein, we may reburne the Ancient Glory of the Five Nations.

Brethren,

We have now done, But one Word we must Add, The Interpretor, if the French Continue their Hostilities, will want Assistance, & two or four, to be Joyned with him, but that matter we Submit to the Governor. We have Now finished all that we have to Say.

The Governor Replyed.

Brethren, I Rejoice we all the Commissioners here present great Satisfaction that this Interview has been so Amicably Concluded on all Sides, I have ordered 60 Waggons, to be provided for your Service, which I expect here to morrow morning, and I have Ordered Provisions, to Serve you on your Journey.

I hope that by this present Union, we shall grow up to a great height, and be as Powerful and Famous as you were of Old,

As to the Interpreter when the Circumstances of the Country require it, he shall have the Necessary Assistance, and I assure you in the name of this and all the Governments here present that we shall endeavour to extend & preserve the Covenant Chain, by every Possible Method in our Power,

They Asked his Honour when himself & the Commissrs. proposed to return home,

His Honour Answered, that they had some Matters yet to Settle, about the union, and they should then set out for their respective Habitations,

The

The Governor then in his own Name, and that of the Commissioners wished them a good Journey, and they returned the Compliment; and then the Conference Broke up. —

The answers of the Lieut.t Governor and the Commiss.rs to the Schaaelicook, and River Indians was next read, Ordered to be entered as follows.

The Answer to the Schaaelicook Indians, Children.

We Condole with you on the Loss of your Old and Experienced People, A. Belt.

Children,

And the Commiss.rs from the other Governments, here present are Glad to see that although you are young and inexperienced, yet you are willing to take advice, and are determined to remain faithful to the King, & friendly to all his Subjects.

A. Belt.

Answer to the River Indians,

Children

We are glad to find that you treasure up, in your Memories, the mutual Obligations of Friendship between our Ancestors and yours, The Remembrance of that Friendship will descend, to our Posterity, And we desire you to hand it down to yours, and although there is a great Alteration in Circumstances since our Predecessors first came among you, yet we have not less affection for you than they had, A. Belt.

Children, Your Brightening & Strengthening the Covenant Chain, is well pleasing to me and the Commiss.rs we acknowledge you have never broke it, We have likewise preserved it entire, and are determined to Continue to do so. A. Belt.

Children

You Complain that some of the People of this Province, are in Possession, of your Lands, & you never Sold. This is a Complaint which affects

Persons,

Persons who live at a Distance, I have ordered Notice to be given them of it, and if upon enquiry into the affair, it shall appear that you have been injured, I will endeavour to get you redressed, But I shall observe to you, that the Constant Method of Granting Lands in this Province, is and has been by Licence from the Governor, to purchase from the Indians, and upon the purchase being returned before him in Council, he with their Advice, Orders a Patent, And that most of those Lands concerning which you Complain, were patented when your children were, some before any of you were born,

Ordered that the following Minute be made. 92

That the last Paragraph of the foregoing Answer to the River Indians, about the manner of patenting Lands in this Province beginning with the words "I shall observe," and an Addition made by his Honour to the Draught sent him Yesterday by this Board.

Col Johnson Mr Chambers,
Col. Partridge, and Mr Hopkins took their Seats,

The Plan of the Union was debated and agreed upon
& Mr Franklin was desired to make a Draught of it
as now Concluded upon,
Adjourned to 5 O'Clock this Evening.

Mon Meeting &c. on Tuesday the
9th July 1754 — P. M.

Present
His Honour the Lieut Gov.
Gov. and the four Gent.
of the Council of New York.
And
All the Commissioners except Mr Franklin absent by his
Appointment in the morning.

The Draught of the Representation &c, was read and Considered, Paragraph by Paragraph, some Amendments made, and the whole was agreed to and ordered to be minuted as follows.

State (1)

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

That His Majesties Title to the Northern Continent of America, appears to be founded on the Discovery thereof first made, and the Possession thereof first taken in 1497 under a Commiss.n from Henry the 7.th of England to Sebastian Cabot,

That the French have Possessed themselves of Several parts of this Continent wch. by Treaties have been ceded & Confirmed to them.

That the Right of the English to the Whole Sea Coast from Georgia on the South to the River St. Laurence, on the North — excepting the Island of Cape Breton and the Islands in the Bay of St. Laurence, remains plain & Indisputable,

That all the Lands or Countries Westward from the Atlantic Ocean, to the South Sea, between 40 & 34. Degrees North Latitude were expressly included in the Grant of King James the 1.st to divers of his Subjects, so long since as the year 1606, and afterwards Confirmed in 1620. and under this Grant, the Colony of Virginia claims extent as far West as the South Sea, and the Ancient Colonies of the Massachusets-bay & Connecticot were by their respective Charters, made to extend to the said South Sea, So that not only the Right to the Sea Coast, but to all the Inland Countries, from Sea to Sea has at all times been asserted by the Crown of England.

That the Province of Nova Scotia or Acadie hath known & Determinate Bounds by the Original Grant from King James the 1.st and that there is Abundant Evidence of the Limits which the French had of these Bounds while they were in Possession of it, and that these Bounds being then known, the said Province by the Treaty of Utrecht according to its Ancient Limits, was ceded to Great Britain, & remained in possession thereof until the Treaty of Aix La Chapelle, by which it was Confirmed, but by said Treaty it is Stipulated, that the Bounds of the said Province, shall be determined by Commissaries, &c. —

That

That by the Treaty of Utrecht the Country of the Five Cantons of the Iroquois is Expressly acknowledged to be under the Dominion of the Crown of Great Britain,

That the Lake Champlain formerly called Lake Iroquois and the Country Southward of it, as far as the Dutch or English Settlements the Lakes Ontario, Erie and all the Countries Adjacent have by all Ancient Authors, French & English been allowed to belong to the Five Cantons or Nations and the Whole of these Countries long before the said Treaty of Utrecht, were by said Nations, put under the Protection of the Crown of Great Britain,

That by the Treaty of Utrecht, there is reserved to the French, a Liberty of Frequenting the Countries of the Five Nations and other Indians in Friendship with Great Britain for the sake of Commerce, as there is also to the English a Liberty of Frequenting the Countries of those in Friendship with France for the same Purpose,

That after the Treaty of Utrecht the French built several Fortresses in the Country of the Five Nations, and a very Strong one at a Place Called Crown Point &c. to the South of Lake Champlain.

That the French Court hath Evidently since the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, made this Northern Continent more than ever the Object of their Attention,

That the French have most unjustly taken Possession of Part of the Province of Nova Scotia, in the River St. Johns & other parts of said Province, they have built Strong Fortresses, and from this River they have during the Winter & Spring Season, a much easier Communication between France & Canada, than they have heretofore had, and will be furnished with a Harbour more Commodious for Shipping, for the annoying the British Colonies by Privateers & Men of War than Louisbourgh itself.

That they have taken Possession of, and begun a Settlement at the head of the River Kennebeck, within the Bounds of the Province of Main, the most Convenient Situation, for affording Support & Safe Retreat to the eastern Indians in any of their Attempts upon the Governments of New-England.

That

That it appears by Information of the Natives the French have been making Preparations for another Settlem.t at a Place called Cohos on Connecticut River, near the Head thereof, whence it is but about ten miles distant from a Branch of Merrimack River, and from whence there is a very near & easy Communication with the Abnaquis Indians who are Settled on the River St. Francois, about forty miles from the River St. Laurence; and it is certain that the Inhabitants of Hampshire, in which Province their Cohos lies, proposed to Sye, have been interrupted & hinder'd by the French Indians from making any Settlements there:

That since the Treaty of Aix La Chapelle, the French have increased the Number of their Forts, in the Country of the Great Lakes, and on the Rivers which run into the Mississippi, and are Erecting a Communication between their two Colonies of Louisania & Canada, and at the same time putting themselves into a Capacity of annoying the Southern British Colonies, and preventing any further Settlement of their Majesties Dominions.

That they have been gradually increasing their Shipping in America, Transporting them in their Ships of War, which return to France with a Base Complement of Men, leaving them wholly in their Colonies, and by this means they are less Observed by the Powers of Europe than they would be if Transports as usual heretofore, were provided for this purpose;

That they have taken Prisoners divers of His Majesty's Subjects trading in the Country of the Iroquois, farther inland than Oswego, and plundered such Prisoners of several Thousand Pounds Sterling, and they are Continually exciting the Indians to destroy or make Prisoners the Inhabitants of the Frontiers of the British Colonies, which Prisoners are Carried to Canada, & a Price, equal to what Slaves are Sold for in the Plantations is demanded for their Redemption & Release;

That

That they are Continually drawing off the Indians from the British Interest, and have lately perswaded one half of the Onondagn Tribe with many from the other Nations along with them, to remove to a Place called Quoyagchie, on the River Cadaraqui, where they have built them a Church and Fort, and many of the Senecas the most numerous Nation, appear to be wavering and rather inclined to the French, and it is a Melancholly Consideration, that not more than 150 Men of all the Several Nations, have attended this Treaty, altho they had Notice that at the Governments would be here by their Commissioners, and that a large present would be given,

That it is the Evident Design of the French to Surround the British Colonies, to Fortifie themselves on the Back thereof to Cutoff and keep Possession of the heads of all the Important Rivers, to draw over the Indians to their Interest, and with the help of such Indians added to such Forces as are already arrived and may hereafter be sent from Europe to be in a Capacity of making a General Attack on the Several Governments, and if at the same time a Strong Naval Force be sent from France, there is the utmost danger that the whole Continent will be Subjected to that Crown and that the Danger of such a Naval Force is not merely Imaginary, may be argued from past Experience, for if it had not been for the most Extraordinary Interposition of Heaven, every Sea Port Town on the Continent in the year 1746, might have been ravaged & Destroyed, by the Squadron under the Command of the Duke D'Anville, & notwithstanding the then declining State of the French, and the very flourishing State of the British Navy, and the further advantage accruing to the English from the Possession of Cape Breton, That the French by Experience they are able to make greater and more Sure advantages upon their Neighbours in Peace, than in war. What they unjustly professed themselves of after the Peace of Utrecht, they now pretend to have a right to hold, by Virtue of the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, until the true Boundary between the English & the French be Settled by Commissioners, but their Conquest made during the War, they have been Obliged to restore.

That the

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That the French affairs relative to this Continent, are under one Direction, and Constantly regarded by the Crown, & Ministry, who are not insensible how great a Stride they would make, towards an Universal Monarchy if the British Colonies were added to their Dominions, and Consequently the Whole Trade of North America engrossed by them:

That the said Colonies being in a Divided Disunited State, there has never been any Joint, Exertion of their Force, or Councils to expel or defeat the measures of the French and particular Colonies are unable & unwilling to maintain the Cause of the Whole

That there has been a very great Neglect of the affairs of the Iroquois or, as they are Commonly called the Indians of the Six Nations, and their Friendship & Alliance has been Improved to private Purposes, for the Sake of the Trade with them, and the purchase or acquisition of their Lands more than to the Public Service,

That they are Supplyed with Rum by the Traders in vast & almost incredible Quantities, the Laws of the Colonies now in Force being insufficient to restrain the Supply, and the Indians of every Nation, are frequently drunk, & abused in their Trade, and their affections thereby alienated from the English, They often murder one another in their Liquor, and to avoid Revenge flee to the French, and perhaps more have been lost by these means than by the French Artifices,

That purchases of Lands from the Indians by Private persons for small & trifling Considerations, have been the Cause of Great Uneasiness & Discontents, and if the Indians are not in fact, imposed on and injured, yet they are apt to think that they have been, and indeed they appear not fit to be intrusted at Large with the Sale of their own Lands, and the Laws of some of the Colonies which make such Sales void unless the Allowance of the Government be first obtained, seem to be well Founded.

That

That the granting or Calending Vast Tracts of Land to private Persons, or Companys without Conditions of Speedy Settlement, has tended to prevent the Strengthning the Frontiers of the Particular Colony where such Lands Lye, and been Prejudicial to the Rest,

That it seems absolutely necessary that Speedy & Effectual measures be taken to Rescue the Colonies from the Slavery they are threatened with.

That any further Advances of the French should be prevented & the Encroachments already made removed, & That the Indians in Alliance or Friendship with the English be Constantly regarded, under some wise Direction or Superintendency.— That Endeavours be used for the Recovery of those Indians, who are lately gone over to the French, and for Securing those that remain,— That some Discreet Person or Persons, be appointed to reside constantly with each Nation of Indians, such Persons to have no Concern in Trade, and duly to Communicate all advices to the Superintendent.— That the Trade with the said Indians, be well regulated, and made Subservient to the Public Interest, more than to private gain, That there be Forts built for the Security of Each Nation and the better Carrying on the Trade with them, & That Warlike Vessels be Provided Sufficient to maintain His Majesty's Right to a Free Navigation on the Several Lakes.— That All future purchases of Lands from the Indians be Void, unless made by the Govern.t where such Lands Lye, And from the Indians in a Body in their Public Councils.— That the Calendars, or Expositions of large unsettled Territories, be injoyned to Cause them to be Settled in a reasonable Time on pain of Forfeiture.— That the Complaints of the Indians, relative to any Grants or Expositions, of their Lands fraudulently Obtained be enquired into and all Injuries redressed, That the Bounds of those Colonys which extend to the South Sea, be Confined, and limitted by the Alleghenny or Apalachian mountains, and that measures be taken for settling from time to time

Colonies.

Colonies of His Majesty's Protestant Subjects Westward of said Mountains in Convenient Cantons to be Assigned for that purpose; and finally that there be a Union of His Majesty's Several Governments on the Continent, that so their Councils, Treasure, and Strength may be employed in due Proportion against their Common Enemy. All which is Submitted.

Adjourned till 9 O'Clock to morrow morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the 10th. July 1754 A.M.

Present

Joseph Murray & Wm. Smith Esqrs. of the Council of New York.

All the Commissrs. except Henry Barburne Esq.r One of the Commissrs. for New Hampshire.

Mr. Franklin reported the Draught in a new form of a Plan of a Union; agreeable to the Determination of Yesterday which was read Paragraph by Paragraph, And the further Consideration of it deferred to the Afternoon.

Adjourned to 3 O'Clock this Afternoon.

At a Meeting &c. on Wednesday the 10th July 1754 P.M.

Mrs. C
His Honour the Lieut. Governor, and the four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.
And
All the Commissioners for the respective Governments.

The Consideration of the Plan of a Union, was resumed, which Plan is as follows.—

Plan.

Plan of a Proposed Union of the Several Colonies of Massachusets-bay, New Hampshire Conecticut Rhode Island New York, New Jersey, Pensilvania, Maryland, Virginia North Carolina, and South Carolina; For their Mutual Defence & Security, and for Extending the British Settlements in North America

That humble Application be made for an Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, by Virtue of which, one General Government may be formed in America, including all the said Colonies, within and under which Government, each Colony may retain its present Constitution, except in the particulars wherein a Change may be directed by the said Act, as hereafter follows.

That the said General Government be administred by a President General, to be appointed & supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council to be Chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, met in their respective Assemblies.

Pres[t] Gen[l] & Grand Council

That within [blank] Months after the passing of such Act, the House of Representatives in the several Assemblies, that happen to be sitting within that time or that shall be Specially for that purpose Convened, may & shall Chuse, Members for the Grand Council in the following Proportions, that is to say

Election of Members

Massachusets-Bay	7.
New Hampshire	2.
Conecticut	5.
Rhode Island	2.
New York	4
New Jersey	3.
Pensilvania	6
Maryland	4
Virginia	7
North-Carolina	4
South-Carolina	4
	48.

Who

Who shall meet for the first time at the City of Philadelphia, in Pensilvania, being called by the President Generall as soon as conveniently may be, after his Appointment.

Place of first meeting.

That there shall be a New Election of Members for the Grand Council every three years, and on the Death or Resignation of any Member, his Place shall be supplyed by a New Choise at the next Sitting of the Assembly of the Colony he represented,

New Election.

That after the first three years, when the Proportion of Money arising out of each Colony to the General Treasury can be known, The Number of Members to be Chosen, for each Colony, shall from time to time in all ensuing Elections be regulated by that proportion (yet so as that the Number to be Chosen by any one Province be not more than seven nor less than Two.)

Proportion of Members after first 3 years.

That the Grand Council shall meet once in every Year, and oftner if Occasion requires, at such time & place as they shall adjourn to at the last preceding meeting, or as they shall be called to meet at by the Presid. General, on any Emergency; he having first obtained in Writing the Consent of seven of the Members to such call, and sent dues and timely Notice to the whole.

Meetings of Grand Council.

Call.

That the Grand Council have Power to Chuse their Speaker, and shall neither be Dissolved, prorogued, nor Continue Sitting longer than six Weeks at one Time without their own Consent, or the Special Command of the Crown.

Speaker.

Continuance.

That the Members of the Grand Council shall be allowed for their Service ten shillings Sterling p. Diem, during their Sessions or Journey to and from the Place of Meeting; Twenty miles to be reckoned a days Journey.

Members Allowance.

That the Assent of the President General be requisite, to all Acts of the Grand Council, and that it be his Office, and Duty to cause them to be carried into Execution,

Assent of Presid. General.

His Duty.

That

Power of Presid.t & Grand Council.

That the President General with the Advice of the Grand Council, hold or Direct all Indian Treaties in which the General Interest or Welfare of the Colonies may be Concerned, And

Peace & War.

make Peace or Declare War with the Indian Nations. That they make such Laws as they Judge Necessary for regulating

Indian Purchases.

all Indian Trade. That they make all Purchases from Indians for the Crown, of Lands not within the Bounds of particular Colonies, or that shall not be within their Bounds when some of them are reduced to more convenient Dimensions.

New Settlem.ts

That they make New Settlements on such Purchases, by Granting Lands, in the Kings Name, reserving a Quit Rent to the Crown, for the use of the General Treasury.

Laws to Gov.r them.

That they make Laws for regulating & governing such new Settlements, till the Crown shall think fit to form them into particular Governments.

Raise Soldiers &c.

That they raise and pay Soldiers, and build Forts for the Defence of any of the Colonies, and equip Vessels of Force to Guard the Coasts and Protect the Trade on the

Lakes &c.

Ocean, Lakes, or Great Rivers; But they shall not Impress

Not to Impress

Men in any Colonies, without the Consent of the Legislature

Power to make Laws Duties &c.

That for these purposes they have Power to make Laws and lay & levy such General Duties, Imposts or Taxes, as to them shall appear most equal and just, Considering the Ability & other Circumstances of the Inhabitants in the several Colonies, and such as may be Collected with the least Inconvenience to the People; rather discouraging Luxury, than Loading Industry with unnecessary Burthens.

Treasurer.

That they may Appoint a General Treasurer and a Particular Treasurer in each Government, when Necessary, And from Time to Time may Order the Remain the Treasuries of each Government, into the General Treasury, or draw on them for Special Payments as they find most Convenient.

Money how to Issue.

Yet no money to Issue, but by joint Orders of the President General and Grand Council, Except where Sums have been Appropriated to particular Purposes, And the President General is previously impowered

by

By an Act to draw for such Sums,

Accounts. That the General Accounts shall be yearly Stated & Reported to the Several Assemblys. ——

Quorum. That a Quorum of the Grand Council impowered to Act with the President General, do consist of Twenty five Members, among whom there shall be one, or more from a Majority of the Colonies. — That the Laws made by them for the Purposes aforesaid, shall not be repugnant but as near as may be agreeable to the Laws of England and shall be transmitted to the King in Council for Approbation, as soon as may be after their Passing and if not disapproved within three years after the Presentation to remain in force.

Laws to be Transmitted.

Death of Presid. General. That in case of the Death of the President General the Speaker of the Grand Council for the time being shall Succeed, and be Called with the same Powers, and Authority, to Continue until the King's Pleasure be known,

That all Military Commiss.r Officers whether for Land or Sea Service, to Act under this General Constitution, shall be Nominated by the President General, But the Approbation of the Grand Council, is to be Obtained before they receive their Commissions, And all Civil Officers are to be Nominated by the Grand Council, and receive the President Generals Approbations, before they Officiate: But in Case of Vacancy by Death or removal of any Officer Civil or Military under this Constitution, the Governor of the Province, in which such Vacancy happens, may Appoint till the Pleasure of the President General and Grand Council can be known, That the Particular Military as well as Civil Establishments in each Colony remain in their present State, this General Constitution Notwithstanding. And that on Sudden Emergencies any Colony may Defend itself, and lay the Accounts of Expence thence Arising, before the President General and Grand Council, who may allow & order payment of the same as far as they Judge such Accounts Just & reasonable? —

Officers shall be Appointed.

Vacancies how supplied.

Each Colony may defend itself on Emergency.

After.

After Debate on the foregoing Plan,
Resolved.

That the Commissioners from the several Governments be desired to lay the same before their respective Constituents for their consideration, And that the Secretary to this Board transmit a Copy thereof with their Vote thereon to the Govern.rs of each of the Colonies, which have not sent their Commissr.s to this Congress.

His Honour proposed to the Board that agreeable to their Resolution of the 24. June, they would now consider the Expediency of building Forts in the Indian Country. It was Determined that considering the present Wavering Disposition of the Senecas it was Expedient that a Fort should be built in their Country at a Place Called Onondeagat or Tierondequat.

Ordered. That a Committee be appointed to consider what further Forts may be Necessary in the Country of the Six Nations, and that each Colony name a Member for that Committee.

Ordered.

That Mr. Chambers & Mr. Ellery be a Committee because the Minutes Settled and agreed to by this Board.

Adjourned till to morrow morning at 9. O'Clock.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany on Thursday the 11th July 1754. — A.M.

Present,
His Honour the Lieut. Gov.r
& the four Esqrs. of the Council
of New-York,
All the Commissioners from the several Governments, except
William Pitkin Esq.r One of the Commiss.rs for Connecticut.

Mr. Wells from the Committee appointed to consider what other Forts may be necessary. Reported. "That they had carefully considered the present State of the Frontiers of these Colonies, and are of Opinion that several other Forts at particular Places are equally necessary with that

proposed

Resolved. at Scarborough, that as there is no Probability of their being effected in the present disunited State of the Colonies, and the General Union may make some of them unnecessary. - We apprehend some Inconveniencies may arise if the Board should go further into the Consideration of that Matter at this Time,

- His Honour put the Question, whether the Board would accept of this Report;
And it passed in the Affirmative.

- Certain Proposals from William Johnson Esq.r relative to the Six Nations, and for defeating the Designs of the French; Also Certain Considerations offered by Thomas Pownall Esq.r "towards a General "Plan of the Measures of the English Provinces." were read at the Board,

Whereupon Voted that Mr. Franklin be Desired to give the thanks of this Board to the said Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Pownall, and desire them to deliver Copies of said Papers, to be taken by the Commiss.rs of each Colony for the Consideration of their respective Governments.

Ordered. That all His Majesties Governm.ts on this Continent may have Liberty from time to time to take Copies of the Proceedings of this Congress, or any parts thereof, paying for the same, And that no other Copies be Delivered by the Secretary.

Ordered.

That upon the Secretary's leaving this Province, the Records of these Proceedings of the Commissioners of the several Governments be lodged in the Secretary's Office of the Province of New York,

Mr. Chambers & Mr. Dexter Reported, that they had Examined these Minutes of the Proceedings of this Congress and find them Right

And

And then his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York and the Commissioners of the Several Governments rose without any further adjournment.

New York the 25th July 1754

A True Copy from the Proceedings of the Congress held in the City of Albany in the Province of New York in the Months of June & July of this present year

Examined by me

Cadwallader Colden
Secy.

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Province of New York.

Albany 19. June 1754.

Proceedings at the Congress held by the Lieutenant Governor of New York & Commissioners from the Provinces of

New Hampshire
Massachusets Bay
Connecticut
Rhode Island
Pensilvania &
Maryland.

containing the Conferences with the six Nations of Indians; A Representation of the State, and a Plan for an Union, of the Colonies.

Rec.d with Lieu.t Gov.r Delancey's Lett.r dated y.e 22.d July 1754.

Rec.d Octo.br y.e 16.th
Read 24 } 1754.

Kk. 20.

1.

Province of New York } ss.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the 18th day of June 1754.

Present The Hono.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.
Mr. Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith

His Honour communicated a Letter of the 20th Ultimo from Lieutenant Holland at Oswego, acquainting his Honour, that since his last Report, fifty five French Canoes passed that Post at three different times towards Niagara with Colours flying, drums beating &c.a And that he has intelligence that all the Indians of the five Nations who were settled near the River Ohio. have quitted their settlements and returned to their respective Castles thro' fear of the disturbances likely to happen there.

His Honour communicated a Minute of the Proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs of the 15th Instant, whom his Honour had directed to convene together, to report to him such matters as they might Judge necessary to be recommended to the Indians at the approaching Conferences: On which the Commissioners Report as follows.

That the six Nations should be exhorted to dwell together in their respective Castles: And the Mohawks to live in one Castle only.

That the Onondages be desired to live together in one Castle, and to cause all their Friends and Relations wherever dispersed to join them, and particularly those who have seperated themselves and live at present at Onegachie a French Settlement of Indians of the six

Nations.

Nations on the South Side of the River S.t Laurence.

That his Honour insist on the Senecas who live very remote from one another to make a General Castle near the Mouth of the Senecas River, where they have already began to build a New Castle.

That the most effectual method to retain and secure the Six Nations to the British Interest, will be to build two Forts, One in the Onondaga, and the other in the Senecas Country, and a Missionary to reside in each.

That the carrying and selling Rum in the Castles of the Six Nations should be restrained.

And Lastly that no Frenchman on any pretence be suffered to reside or Trade amongst the Six Nations, and that the Indians be desired to send those away who are now among them, and to warn them not to return.

His Honour also laid before the Board a Minute of the said Commissioners of this day, setting forth, that divers Complaints had been made to them, that the Canajoharry Indians forceably take away Rum from the Oswego Traders, And that the Oneida Indians oblige the Traders to let them carry their goods over the carrying places, and to pay double and sometimes more than double the Customary Rates, which the Traders are willing to take. And therefore desiring his Honour to represent the Injustice of these proceedings to the Six Nations. Also a Remonstrance to the same purpose from the Oswego Traders.

All which Matters the Council were of Opinion were proper to be proposed to the consideration of the

Commissioners

Commissioners at the Congress. Except the recommending that the Mohawks should reside together in one Castle only, for which the Council were apprehensive there was no good reason, and therefore thought it unnecessary

His Honour then laid before the Board, the several Matters he proposed to recommend to the Commissioners viz.

That the Treaty to be made with the Indians be in his Majesty's name, in behalf of all the Colonies, and if any of the Commissioners would propose matters relative to a particular Government only, that it be made a part of the General Treaty. That it be principally insisted on in the Conferences — to unite all the Indian Nations in the British Interest, and their Allies in one Common alliance and Friendship with each other, and with all the Colonies on the Continent.

That two Forts be built at the places mentioned by the Commissioners of Indian affairs, and proper Garrisons constantly maintained in them, and Smiths to repair their Guns, in whose hands small Sums of money should be put to provide and give to the Indians such necessary Supplies, as they may stand most in need of from time to time.

And that for Securing the Frontiers of this, and the Eastern Colonies; three Forts be Erected and maintained with sufficient Garrisons in them.

One in a proper Situation near the Carrying Place on Hudsons river,
One on the Lake S.t Sacrament.

And the other on the Lower or Southern part of the Woodcreek: The two last being the Inlets, by which the French and their Indians make Incursions into these Colonies.

Which Points the Council approved of as proper to be recommended accordingly.

Ordered

Ordered that Mr. Banyar do wait upon the Commissioners from the Several Governments, and acquaint them that his Honour desires they will meet him in Council in the City Hall to morrow morning at 11 Clock, in order to produce their Powers and proceed upon Busines.

At a Council held at the City Hall in the City of Albany the 19th day of June 1754.

Present The Honble James DeLancey Esq. Lieut. Governr &c.
Mr. Murray Mr. Chambers
Col. Johnson Mr. Smith

The Commissioners from the Provinces of New Hampshire Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut Rhode Island Pensilvania and Maryland took their Seats, and then his Honour opened the Conference by reading that part of the Letter from the Lords of Trade of the 13th September last which relates to a meeting with the Indians, and directs the Treaty to be made with them to be in his Majestys name, and to Consist of his Majestys Colls. And then the Commissioners produced their respective Commissions, which were read.

His Honour then laid before the Commissioners the two minutes of the proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, and the Journal of the Oswego Traders, read in Council yesterday, and recommended as the first Step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the Commissioners should Consider of the Several Matters they may judge proper to be proposed to the Indians at the intended Conference with them, and prepare the Speech to be made on the Occasion; for which purpose his Honour acquainted them, he would direct the Secretary or Agent of Indian affairs to attend them with the Records of that Office, and the Comrs. of Indian affairs to meet together as often as there shall be occasion, in order that they might give them all the necessary information relative to Indian affairs.

At a Council held at the City of Albany the twenty Sixth day of June 1754.

Present. The Hono^{ble} James DeLancey Esqr Lieu^{t} Govr
Mr Murray
Col^{o} Johnson
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith

His Honour acquainted the Council that the Upper Castle of the Mohawks were not yet arrived in Town, and that he only waited for their Arrival to make the Speech to them wherefore he had prepared a Message to be sent to that Castle which he laid before the Board and which was approved of and is as follows.

Brethren of Connajoharie

I am Surprised at your staying so long from this place, where I have been for a considerable time. I expected you here among the first, as you had some Complaints to make to me, which I have been, and am still ready to hear. And I would have you come down immediately; otherwise I and the Commissioners from the Other Governments, shall be obliged to Speak to the Six Nations without you.

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At a Council held in the City of Albany the 27th day of June 1752 P.M.

Present. The Hon.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut.t Gov.r &c.a
Mr. Murray, Mr. Chambers
Col.o Johnson, Mr. Smith

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpreter, that the Lower Castle of the Mohawk Indians now in this City, had some business to lay before him, and desired to be admitted to an Audience, Appointed them to attend at 4 o'Clock this afternoon in Council, and they attending accordingly, were introduced with the Interpreter.

The Governor told them, he was very glad to see them, that he was now met in Council, and ready to hear what they had to say.

Whereupon Canadagia their Speaker, addressing himself to his Honour Spoke as follows.

Brother.

We are here this day by Gods Will, and your Honours order, to which place you have led us as it were by the hand. This is our old meeting place, where if we have any grievances we can lay them open. You are lately come to the Administration, and we are glad to see you to lay our Complaints before you. We take it very kind you have given us this Opportunity to unfold our minds, and we will now proceed to declare our grievances.

Brother. We shall now open our minds and we beg you will take time to consider what we shall say, and not give us too hasty an answer, or in two or three words, and then turn your back upon us. As you are a new Governour we beg you will treat us tenderly and not as the former Governor did, who turned his back upon us, before we knew he intended to depart, so that we

had

had no opportunity to finish our business with him. The Reason we desire you would treat us in this tender manner, is because this is the place where we are to expect a Redress of our Grievances and we hope all things will be so Settled, that we may part good friends.

Brother. We told you a little while ago, that we had an uneasiness on our minds and we shall now tell you what it is. It is concerning our Land: We understand that there are Writings for all our Land, so that we shall have none left but the very Spot we live upon, and hardly that. We have examined among the elderly People who are now present, if they have sold any of it, who deny that they ever have, and we earnestly desire you will take this into Consideration, which will give us great Satisfaction, and convince us that you have a freindship for us. We dont complain of those who have honestly bought the Land they possess, or of those to whom we have given any, but of some who have taken more than we have given them. We find we are very poor; We tho' we had yet Land round about us, but it is said there's Writings for it all. It is one Condition of the Ancient Covenant Chain that if there be any uneasiness on either Side, or any request to be made, that they shall be considered with a Brotherly regard and we hope you will fulfill that Condition on your side, as we shall be allways ready to do on ours. We have embrac'd this opportunity of unbosoming ourselves to you, with regard to our Castle and we are well assured that the other Castles of the Mohawks have complaints of the same nature to make when they come down. We have

now

now declared our own Grievances, and the Connajohary's will declare theirs, but that we shall leave to them. — By this Belt we desire you to consider what we have said and by the same we informe you that the five — Nations have something to say to you before you Speak to them. Gave a Belt.

The Governour Said — You have now informed your — selves to me, and desired I would Seriously consider of what you have Said; and not give you a hasty — Answer. I will consider of it Seriously and you shall allways find me ready to redress any of your — Grievances as far as it may be in my Power. But Your Complaints are general. I must therefore desire you to tell me where those Lands lie, and the names of the persons of whom you complain.

To which their Speaker answered.

Brother. We are told a Large Tract of Land has been taken up called Kayadarosseras, beginning at the half moon and so up along Hudsons River to the third Fall, and thence to Cachinewaga or Canada Creek which is about four or five Miles above the Mohawks, which upon — Enquiry, among our old Men, we cannot find was ever Sold; and as to the particular persons, many of them — live in this Town, but there are so great a Number — We cannot name them.

The Governour Said

I Will Send for Some of the Patentees or the Persons claiming that Land, and hear what they have to Say, — and consider the matter, and give you an Answer — before you leave this Place. It is agreable to Justice — to hear both parties before a Judgment is given; and

to

to manifest my Friendship for you, I will do
You all the Justice in my Power &c.

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At

At a Councill held in the City of
Albany the 28th. of June 1754.

Present. The Hono.ble James De Lancey Esq.r Lieut. Govr. &c.r
Mr. Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith.

His Honour being informed, that the Canajoharry or upper Castle of the Mohawk Indians, and several sachims of each of the other five Nations, attended without, and desired to speak with him, they were introduced with the Interpreter.

Hendrick their Speaker Spoke as follows

Brother

We had a Message from you some time ago, to meet you at this place, where the Fire burns. We of Canajoharry met the Messenger you sent with a Letter, at Col.o Johnsons. And as soon as we received it we came down running: and the Six Nations are now here Compleat.

The Governour then said.

Brethren of the Six Nations, you are welcome. I take this opportunity now you are all together, to console the Loss in the death of your friends and Relations, since you last met here. And with this string of Wampum I wipe away your Tears, and take Sorrow from your hearts, that you may open your minds and Speak freely.

A String of Wampum

Hendrick replyed

Brother. We thank you for condoleing our loss, and for wipeing away our Tears that we may Speak freely;

and

And as We do not doubt but you have lost some of
Your great Men and Friends, We give you this String
of condolance in return, that it may remove your
sorrow, and that we may both Speak freely.

gave a String.

Then Hendrick Addressing himself to the Sachims
said that last year he attended Col.o Johnson to
Onondaga, to do service to the King and their People.
That Col.o Johnson told them, a New Governor was
expected soon, And they would then have an
Opportunity of seeing him at Albany, and laying
their grievances before him. That the new Govern.r
arrived soon after, and scarcly had they heard of
his Arrival, but they had an Account of his death
And that he was now glad to See his Honour, to
whom he would declare his grievances. And then
proceeded.

Brother. We thought you would wonder why
we of Connajahary Staid so long, we Shall now
give you the Reason. Last Summer Ye of
Connajahary were down at New York to make
our Complaints. And we then thought the Covenan.t
Chain was broken, because we were neglected; for
when you neglect business the French take advant.s
of it, for they are never quiet. It Seemed to us that
the Governour had turned his back upon the
five Nations, as if they were no more. Whereas the
French are doing all in their power to draw us
over to them.

We told the Governour last Summer, We
Blamed him for the neglect of the five Nations, and
at the Same time we told him the French were

drawing

drawing the five Nations away to Onnegachie,
owing to that neglect, which might have been
prevented if proper use had been made of that
warning, but now we are afraid it is too late. We
remember how it was in former times, when we
were a strong and powerfull people, Col.o Schuyler
used frequently to come among us, and by this means
we were kept together.

Brother. We the Mohawks are in very difficult
circumstances, and are blamed for things behind
our backs, which we dont deserve. Last Summer
when we went up with Col.o Johnson to Onondaga,
and he had made his Speech to the five Nations.
The five Nations said they liked the Speech very well,
but that the Mohawks had made it, we are looked
upon by the other Nations as Col.o Johnson's Counsellors,
and Supposed to hear all News from him, which
is not the case, for Col.o Johnson does not receive
from or impart much News to us. This is our
reason for staying behind, for if we had come
first, the other Nations would have said that
we made the Governours Speech, and therefore
tho' we were resolved to come, we intended the other
Nations should go before us, that they might hear
the Governours Speech, which we could hear
afterwards.

There are some of Our People who have
large open Ears, and talk a little broken English
and Dutch, so that they some times hear what
is said by the Christian Settlers near them; And
by this means we came to understand that We are
looked upon to be a proud Nation, and therefore Staid

behind

behind. Tis true and known, We are so, And that we the Mohawks are the head of all the other Nations, here they are, and they must own it. But it was not out of pride we Connajoharys staid behind, but for the Reason we have already given.

His Honour answered

Brethren of Connajohary

You have now told me the Reason why you staid behind; because you would not be blamed by the other Nations as you have been before. I am satisfyed with what you say, that your staying behind did not proceed from pride.

You tell me you have large open Ears and that some of you understand a little of the language of the Settlers about you, but I must caution you not to hearken to common Reports, neither of us or your Brethren of the other Nations. I desire that we may all speak freely and open our Hearts to each other, and so Remove any Jealousies from amongst us.

I hope at another Interview you will all be more punctual, and keep as neare as you can to the time appointed. You are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me and the Commissioners from the other Governments, to be detained so long in this place at so great a distance from our Homes.

The General Assembly standing prorogued to Tuesday the second day of July. His Honour with the Advice of the Council, was pleased further to prorogue the same, until Tuesday the Sixth day of August next, and thereupon a Proclamation was signed by his Honour, proroguing the General Assembly accordingly.

At.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the Second day of July 1754. —

Present. The Hono: James DeLancey Esq. Lieut. Govr. &c.
M. Murray
Col. Johnson
M. Chambers
M. Smith

The Indians of the Connajoharey Castle having desired a Conference with his Honour, they were introduced with the Interpreter.

His Honour told them he was ready to hear what they had to say.

Hendrick their Speaker addressing himself to his Honour said.

Brother. We shall begin from the last meeting we had with Governour Clinton at New York, and not Mention the particulars that passed at that time, We then complained of Lands being taken up without our knowing it, and we were told our Complaints should be considered, and an Answer given at this place.

We desire that the poor Germans our Neighbours, may have the Land we promised them, because we always pity the poor, and they are our Neighbours, and we desire our Brother in pity to us and them, will grant the Land according to our agreement with these people. Then Hendrick produced a Deed dated the 31st. of March 1753 to Certain Germans for a Tract of Land lying between Sarage and Canada Creeks, extending from the

Patented

Patented Lands on the North side of the Mohawks River, four Miles into the Woods, which was read — and then proceeded as follows.

Brother We have the same regard for Teady Magin (who obtained several Licenses from the Government to purchase the Lands in controversy, and agreed with the Indians, and obtained a Deed for a large — Tract including this) that we have for those poor Neighbours, and therefore desired they would be — peaceable and agree together, but we could not perswade them to it. We should be sorry if either of them should suffer. And We beg our Brother — would settle the Matter between them. The Germans are poor and have no Writings. Teady Magin is — rich and has Writings and Friends, and We beg — You will give the Germans Writings for their — Lands. Our blood has been very warm for some — time, and we were uneasy on this Account, and — therefore we desire it may be settled, and we shall be easy in our minds.

Some of the Parties of both sides being present, His Honour withdrew with them, to — endeavour to bring them to an Agreement, and being returned said:

Brethren. You tell me you have endeavoured to bring the Parties to an Agreement, but could not. I have at your request used my endeavours for this end, and have I hope Succeeded. But it is — necessary you should mention the Sum you

expect —

expect to be paid for the Lands, five or Six Miles back of the four Miles you have given the Germans, and if the Parties agree to pay you what you demand, I will then acquaint you, in what manner they have agreed to divide it among them, and you may then give them Deeds accordingly, and the controversy will be ended, and you have no further trouble or uneasiness about it.

The Indians said that they would consult together, and when they had agreed, would let his Honour know it.

Hendrick then said, that they had some time last year, agreed with John Christopher Hartwick, for the Sale of a Tract of Land of Six Miles square, but that when they came to Survey it, they found one half of it had been Patented before, and therefore in lieu of this deficiency, they had given him as much adjoyning to it. That only one of the lines was run, but as it was a Square piece, they thought the Tract was described with Sufficient certainty, in the Deed they executed and gave to Mr. Hartwick for it. The Deed was then produced and read, and the Indians acknowledged they had received the Consideration money for the same, and desired the Land might be Surveyed and a Patent Granted.

The Governour with the Advice of the Council told them, That the reasons why the Government had thought proper to direct an actual Survey of the Land by the Surveyor General before or at the time of the Purchase, was to prevent their being imposed upon in the Sale of their Lands, by giving

Deeds

Deeds for more, or other Lands than they intended to Sell: But as it appeared in this case, they were Sensible as well of the Quantity as the Situation of the Land they had Sold, he would to make their minds easy, grant the Land upon the Deed they had given, and Order a Survey as soon as Mr. Hardwick should make proper Application.

Hendrick then Addressing himself to the Governour said, That in the Purchasing their Lands of them, Persons were often employed as Interpreters who understood very little of their Language. That by this means Mistakes were committed, and they Some times injured: Wherefore they desired the Province Interpreter, and no other might for the future be employed on that Occasion.

The Governour told him, He would promise them nothing but what was in his Power to perform. That he doubted if he could give Such directions, but would consider of it. The Indians declared their Satisfaction, and the Conference ended.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the third day of July 1754.

Present. The Hono.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut. Gov.r
Mr. Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith

The Canajoharry Indians being introduced with the Interpreters. His Honour Directed the Interpre-

to ask them, if they had agreed with the Parties on the Sum they were to be paid for the Lands Six Miles back into the Woods, to begin from the four Miles they had -- given the Germans, to which they replyed, they had concluded to take only one hundred and fifty pieces of eight, or Sixty pounds for it, as Teady Magin had already been at a great deal of expence, and trouble in bringing up the Surveyor two or three times, to Survey it; and the dispute had been depending three years.

The Governor then told them, that it was agreed by the Parties, that George Klock, William Nellis, and the other Germans concerned with them, in all thirty five in number, should have the Lands two Miles and an half (instead of four Miles) between the two Creeks, to begin at the back of the Patented Lands and to run that distance into the Woods: And Teady Magin and his Associates, to have the remaining one Mile and a half, of the said four Miles, and Six Miles from thence back into the Woods, the whole breath between the Creeks Garoge and Canada. The Indians said they had agreed that Magin should have only Six Miles, and that he must begin at the end of the two Miles and an half the Germans were to have.

The Parties on both Sides then declared their Consent to this Agreement in Council, and in presence of the Indians.

His Honour then observed to the Council, that as the Indians were very desirous that the Germans should have Writings for the Lands they had

given

given them, and to give deeds to both parties before they left this place, which the Germans could not regularly obtain without a Lycense to purchase the Land, he was willing to grant them a Lycense, if the Board advised it, altho only four of the Council were present; and having desired their opinion thereupon: The Council advised his Honour, inorder to remove effectually the uneasiness the Indians had expressed concerning this Matter, to grant a Lycense accordingly, upon the parties making proper Application for it. The Board being satisfyed as to the Ability of the Persons to settle the Lands, according to the Terms of his Majestys Instructions.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the fourth day of July 1754.

Present. The Hond: James DeLancey Esq. Lieu.t Gov.r &c.
M.r Murray
Col.o Johnson
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith

The Board taking into Consideration, that the Presents ordered by his Majesty and those to be made on the part of this, and the several Governments who have sent Commissioners to the General Interview here, are shortly to be distributed among the Six Nations of Indians, and it being represented that some of those

People

People on their return to their Castles, by being intoxicated with Strong Liquors, are easily prevailed on by the Inhabitants to sell the goods they receive on such Occasions for Rum, are Trifling consideration, Advised his Honour to Issue a Proclamation to prevent the same: And thereupon a Proclamation for this purpose was read and signed by his Honour with the advice of the Council.

The Petition of George Klock and William Wells in behalf of themselves and others, praying a Lycense to purchase in his Majesty's Name, of the Native Indian Proprietors thereof, a Certain Tract of Land situate Lying and being in the County of Albany, on the North side of the Mohawks River, between two Creeks there, the one called Garoge Creek, and the other Caiohaan or Canada Creek, beginning at the back or Northerly bounds of the patented Lands there, on the said River, formerly Granted to Francis Harison John Harbolt, John Spratt and others, but now belonging partly to the Petitioners, and others, and extending from thence into the Woods two Miles and an half, the Whole Breadth between the said two Creeks, containing by Computation about twelve thousand Acres: In order to enable the Petitioners and their Associates, (in all thirty five in number,) to obtain his Majesty's Letters Patent for the same. Was presented to the Board and read. And the Council advised his Honour to Grant the Petitioners, a Lycense to purchase the said Lands accordingly.

Ent.

At a Council held at the City of Albany the 5th day of July 1754.

Present. The Honble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut.t Govr. &c.
Mr. Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith

On Reading a petition dated the 29th day of June last, Signed by Jx Nowaatannunch or Stockbridge Indians, setting forth that they are Natives of this Province, and that their Ancestors were Native owners of some of the Lands on, and about Hudsons River, which the petitioners imagine they have a right to, neither their Fathers, or they ever having received any Consideration for a considerable quantity of those Lands, altho some of it is possessed by the White People, all surveyed, and so far the Whole taken from them; and therefore praying Redress. It is Ordered by his Honour with the Advice of the Council, that the petitioners do serve Copies of the said petition, together with the Certificate wrote thereupon, Signed by five Indians and of this order on the persons in possession of the said Lands, To the end that such persons may be heard thereupon, before his Honour in Council.

The Connajoharry Indians were introduced with the Interpreter.

And six of the said Indians Viz.t Hendrick Peterson, William Darius, Nickus, Jacob, Paulus, Johannes Jacob and Henry Rott Signed and Sealed a

Deed

Deed to his Majesty his heirs and Successors, for the Lands mentioned in the Petition, of George Klock and William Sills, read and granted in Council Yesterday, for the Consideration of eighty pounds.

And it being Suggested on the part of Seady Magin and his Associates, that the Six Miles the Indians had agreed to Sell to the said Magin, would probably not contain the full quantity he was enabled to purchase by the Lycense granted to him: The Indians were asked if they would Sell him one Mile more, to which they agreed, for the further Consideration of thirty pieces of eight, or twelve pounds; and thereupon the Six Indians above named, also Signed a Deed dated this day to his Majesty, for a Tract of Land beginning at the Back or Northerly bounds of the Lands described in the Deed first above mentioned, and extending from thence Seven Miles into the Woods, being in Breadth the Whole distance between the two Creeks, the one called Garoge Creek, and the other Caioharon or Canada Creek, Containing by Computation about thirty two thousand Acres.

Hendrick in the Speech he made on the 4th Instant, in behalf of all the Six Nations, having mentioned the Complaints the Connajoharys made last year at New York about their Lands, and desired to know when that affair would be Settled, as it was promised that Satisfaction should be given them, in that Article, His Honour told them.

That he did not hear of those Complaints

until

until he came now to this Place, being on the Circuit when they were last year in New York, and laid them before Governour Clinton. That the first day he met them here in Council, he desired them to open their Hearts, and therefore expected they would then have mentioned those Matters. That he will examine and Consider of those Complaints in Council, when he arrives at New York, and let them know what may be concluded upon, and will do them all the Justice in his Power.

Hendrick said, They beg'd nothing of that kind might happen for the future, and that no Mistakes might be made by Persons taking up more Lands than they should sell to them, or agree for.

The Governor replyed. — That their Father the King being informed of their Complaints, had sent over New Orders to prevent their being imposed upon, or defrauded in the purchase of their Lands.

The Indians then declared themselves satisfyed with his Honours promise and returned him thanks.

Lt.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the Sixth day of July 1751. P. Merid.

Present. The Hone: James DeLancey Esq. Lieut. Gov. &c.
M. Murray
Col. Johnson
M. Chambers
M. Smith

His Honour Communicated to the Board, a Message he received in the forenoon from the Commissioners of the several Governments now Assembled in this City, which was read, and is as follows.

May it please your Honour

The Commissioners from the several Governments now met at Albany, observe that in the Speech which your Honour proposes to make this day to the Indians of the Six Nations, and which you have caused to be communicated to the Board by their Secretary, No Notice is taken of the Complaints of the said Indians relating to their Lands.

This Complaint seems by the Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, which your Honour has laid before the Board, to have been the principal occasion of this unusual and expensive Meeting of Commissioners, from so many Colonies; And it appears by the last Answer from the Indians, that their uneasiness still remains, The Commissioners therefore think it incumbent on them, to pray your Honour, that they may be acquainted

with

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

with the particulars of the Complaint, And that they may have an opportunity of consul=ting with your Honour, proper Measures for the removeing the causes thereof.

Albany 6th July 1754.

At a meeting of Commissioners &c.

Ordered that Mr. Wells and Mr. Pitkin wait on his Honour the Lieut. Governour of New York with the aforegoing Message.

Attest Peter Wraxall Secry

To which his Honour with the Advice of the Council sent the following Answer to the Commiss.

Gentlemen.

In answer to your Message of this day to me Jacquaint you, that yesterday I had the Sachims of the Conajoharry Castle before me in Council, to conclude the matters in controversy between one Lady Magin and some Germans, relating to an Indian purchase that had occasioned the greatest uneasiness among the Indians of that Castle, which was then formerly and finally settled to the satisfaction of all Parties: I then took occasion to observe to them, that at their meeting on the 2 Instant, I desired them to open their minds fully, and that I then expected they would have laid all their Complaints before me. That as to what they had mentioned in their publick Speech on the 2 Inst. I had not heard of any other particular complaint, until I came to this place, being aboard on the Circuit, at the time they made them in New York, and I then promised as soon as I returned thither I would look into them, and do them all the Justice that lay in my Power, with which they declared themselves Satisfyed and thanked me.

Albany 6th July 1754.

Mr

At a Council held at the City of Albany
the 6th day of July 1754. P. Present

Present The Honble James DeLancey Esq. Lieut. Gov. &c.
M. Murray M. Chambers
Colo Johnson M. Smith

The lower Castle of the Mohawk Indians being introduced with the Interpreter, to hear his Honor's Answer to their Complaint, about a large Tract of Land called Kayaderosseras, which they alledge was patented without being purchased from them. His Honour said

Brethren. When you made this Complaint to me, I told you, it was agreable to Justice to hear both Parties. Accordingly sent for some of the persons who claim that Land, and live in this place. They brought me a deed given about fifty years ago signed by two of the Wolf, and two of the Scribe of the Turtle, in presence of four Justices of the Peace, which you now see before you; Then the Description of the Lands granted by the said Deed was read and explained as was also the bounds of the Original Patent, and then his Honour proceeded.

Brethren. This Patent includes a very large Tract of Land and as it seems to me, more than the Indian Deed: some of the Parties interested are absent, who possibly may have other Indian Deeds. As the whole is granted by Patent under the Kings Great Seal, I cannot intermeddle therein, otherwise than by laying the Matter before the King your Father, which I will do immediately, and I doubt not his Majesty will order strict Justice to be done in the case, and whatever directions he shall be pleased to send me, I will acquaint you with, and send the Belt you have given me, that you may see I have not forgot my promise.

Their

Their Speaker Said. Their was an old Man present who did not remember that the Land was ever purchas of their Castle. That only two of the Tribes had Signed the Deed, Whereas it was castomary that the three Tribes should Sign Deeds, and Deeds not so signed were unlawfull, and that they thought it very Strange, that their People should for Ever sell so much Land, as it would take a person three days to Walk over.

The Governor told them he had taken minutes of what had been Said on this Subject which they might depend upon it he would lay before the King. They said they were satisfyed and thanked their Brother the Governour.

Their Speaker then said that they formerly ga a small parcel of Low Lands to Hendrick Hansen, who besides this, had taken up a great piece of Woodland.

The Governour told them. If they had mention this matter when they spoke to him the other day, he would have Sent to Mr. Hansen for his Papers, that it was now too late, and must be defer'd to another time.

Their Speaker Replyed. That as their Brothe was a New Governor they thought it necessary to men their Complaints, which it appeared to them he took much to heart, and if he would do as he had promis they would take it as a proof of his Friendship for them, that when they last Spoke to his Honour, they tol him they had complaints to make, and that the Connajoharys and all the five Nations had Complaint to lay before him; all which his Honour had answer That every thing was now in a good light, and they should go away well Satisfyed, and were very thankfull.

Their

Their Speaker then said — That when Mr. Barclay who was formerly their Minister first came to live at the Mohawks, he said he came by the Kings order to live among them, and promised to continue there till his death, On which they proposed to give him a piece of Ground to build a House upon, with a Garden, and a small piece for mowing Ground: That they shewed him a little piece of low land, which he thought too small, and chose to have a larger, as he was determined to live and die amongst them, that they gave him a large piece to keep as long as he should live there, but that he has left them, and is gone to New York without telling them know the reason of it. That they complained of this matter several times, and at last were told it should go to the King, but they have heard no more of it. That Mr. Barclay now pretends to keep the Land contrary to agreement, and they beg his Honour will pay him for the House he had built upon the Land, and that the Land might remain for the use of a Minister for ever. That they make this request now, because there are so many — Governments in this place, and it would have the more — weight, and they desire those Governments to join and — pray for the House. Gave a Belt.

His Honour answered.

Brethren. I have attended to your Complaint, and will endeavour to give you redress and am sorry no notice has been taken of it before. The reason why Mr. Barclay to you was that the New York Minister died, and there being so many thousands of people there, who wanted a Minister, who knowing him to be a good Man, strongly importuned him to go and live among them, he could not refuse their request. I am pleased that you are sensible Mr. Barclay ought not to loose the money he laid out in building the House

and

and when I arrive at New York I will enquire of him how much he expended, and I make no doubt as he is a good Man, he will accept the money and give up the Land, And If I can get the money raised, the House and Land shall remain for the use of a Minister for ever. But I expect you will suffer the People who are Settled there by Mr. Barclay's Order to continue there without molestation.

They said they had one thing more to Mention which was, That they had a very great Regard for Capt. Butler, who formerly lived among them, and promised to do so allways: That they observe he is now in Albany and they do not understand he is to return to the Fort, And they beg his Honour to let him go thither again.

The Governour told them. The Comp.y Lieutenant Butler belonged to, was sent out of the Province, and he could not post him there again, as he had no Men to Command. That he had a great Regard for him, and as he was an old Man and weak in his Limbs, he had given him Liberty to live at his House, and should be pleased were it in his Power to comply with their request. That he would keep the Belts they had given him, and return them an Answer as soon as he could.

L.

At a Council held at the City of Albany the eighth day of July 1751.

Present / The Hono. James DeLancey Esq. Lieut. Gov. &c.
The Hon. Rt. Hon.
M. Murray
Col. Johnson
M. Chambers
M. Smith

His Honour being informed, that some of the Board of the Commissioners were not fully Satisfyed with the Answer he sent to their Message of the 6th. Instant, relating to the uneasiness among the Indians about their Lands, but were of Opinion the Indians should be Spoke to again on this Subject, to know if they were Satisfyed, and that the Gentlemen who were of this Opinion, had grounded it upon an Information, that several of the Indians had declared that they were not Satisfyed, as to the Complaints they made about their Lands. His Honour therefore desired a Committee of that Board would attend him in Council, where he would Examine the Indians again, and five of the Gentlemen of that Board, attending accordingly, His Honour Sent for a Sachem of each Nation, who attending with the Interpreter, were called in, and his Honour Said to them.

Brethren of the Connajoharry Castle

You remember that Soon after I came to this place, You told me you were very uneasy concerning the Difference which then Subsisted betwen Teady Magin and Some Germans respecting the Purchase of Some of your Lands, and that this Controversy has been Since Settled to the Satisfaction

of

of all the parties. And that as to the other Complaints, which you had made at New York, as I was absent at that time, I told you that as soon as I returned thither, I would examine into them, and do you all the Justice in my Power. Now I desire you would acquaint me, and the Commissioners present, whether you then declared you were Satisfyed with my Promise, and returned me thanks.

Hendrick Said.

It is true they had made these Complaints and that his Honour had told them, he was at Albany when they Spoke of them to Governour Clinton at New York, and they trusted his Honour would do as he had promised them. That the Connajoharys relyed on this promise, and were well pleased, That his Honour is the head of all the Governments present, and they depended on him as their own Governour, But if after a year they Shou'd not receive Satisfaction, as to their Complaints they would mention them again to his Honour and all the Governors, and that if he found after Tryal he could not redress them they desired him to take the Assistance of all the other Governors, That as they had Spoken lovingly and friendly together, they hoped every thing might conclude so, and more especially as the French (some of whose Indians were now in the place) Should they be informed, of any differences between

their

their Brethren and them, would laugh at them and endeavour to rekindle them.

His Honour told them, they might expect to hear after he had been at New York, what he had done in the Matter, that it was not only his own inclination, but the King had Commanded him to do them all the Justice he could about their Lands. They then returned his Honour, and the Commissioners thanks and withdrew. —

At a Council held at the City of Albany the 9th day of July 1754.

Present: The Hono: the James DeLancey Esq. Lieu.t Gov.r &c.a
Mr. Murray
Col.o Johnson
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith

His Honour Communicated to the Council a draft of the Speech proposed to be made to the Sachkook and Mowet Indians, prepared by the Board of Commissioners now met in this City, to which his Honour proposed to make an Addition.

The Paragraph as it Stands in the draft runs thus.

Children

You Complain that Some of the People of this Province, are in Possession of your Lands, which you never Sold. This is a Complaint which affects Persons who live at a distance: I have ordered notice to be given them of it; And if upon Inquiry into the affair, it Shall appear, it Shall appear that you have been injured, I will endeavour to get you redress

The

The Addition proposed to this Paragraph by his Honour is in these Words viz.

But I shall Observe to you, that the Constant Method of Granting Lands in this Province, is and has been by Lycence from the Governour to purchase from the Indians, and upon the purchase being returned before him in Council, he with their Advice orders a Patent, and that most of these Lands concerning which you Complain, were Patented when you were Children, Some before any of you were born.

of which Addition the Council approved.

The preceding are true Copies of the Original Entries Examined By

Jos Banyar D Sec

New-York

Province of New York.

June and July 1754.

Copy.

Minutes of Council during the Lieutenant Governor's Residence in Albany, at the General Intervien with the six Nations of Indians. in June & July 1754.

Rec.d with Lieu.t Gov.r Delancey's Letter dated y.e 22.d of July 1754.

Rec.d Octob.r y.e 16.th
Read — 24 } 1754.

Kk. 21.

Considerations towards a General Plan &c. —

The Plan of the Saench measures in building a line of Forts round the English settlements is.

I.st To cutt the English off from all Communication of Alliance or Trade with the Indians.

The reason of building the Fort Cadaraqui.

"They found it necessary to build this Fort for a Bulwark against the incursions of the Iroquois and to interrupt the Trade of Skines that these Savages maintain with the Inhabitants of New York and the Hollanders who have form'd a New Colony there; For they furnish the Savages with Commodities at cheaper rates than the French of Canada.

Father Henepin Chap. 4.th

The Scheme or design of building the Fort at Niagara.

"Such a Fort as this might easily interrupt the Commerce betwixt these People and the English and Dutch in New York. Their custom is to carry to New York the Skins of Elks, Beavers and several sorts of Beasts which they hunt and seek after for two or three hundred leagues from their own home. Now they being oblig'd to passe and repasse near to this Mouth of the River Niagara we might easily stop them by fair means in time of Peace or by open force in time of War, and thus oblige them to turn their Commerce upon Canada. Tel. Chap. 7.

The Design of building the Fort Canaouisligoyan on the Lake Superior. —

"'Tis some years since M.r Dulhut built a Fort upon this Lake where he had large Magazines of all sorts of goods. That Fort was call'd Canouisligoyan and did considerable Diservice to the English Settlements in Hudsons Bay.

La Honton's Memoirs of North Amer. page 214.

II.dly To make it a line of Circumvallation to confine the English Settlements within such Bounds as the Saench are pleased to thro' sett to the English Provinces. —

Many

2 Many proofs might be allodged on this head but the following is more than Sufficient.

The Summons of surrender sent by the French Officer to the English Officer at the Forks of Monongahela:

III.dly To join Louisania and Canada to become Masters of the Lakes and make the whole Continent One French Kingdom.

"Is plainly perceiv'd by what Relations I had of several — "particulars in different Nations, that it were not a matter "of great Difficulty to make considerable Establishments to "the south East of the great Lakes and that by the Convenience "of a great River called Ohio which passes thro' the Country "of the Iroquois a Passage might be made into the Great Sea "at Cape Florida. Father Hennepin Chap. 4.th

Charlevoix's Journal Historic. Nov.r 8. 1721. Vol. 6. page 157.

Il n'est point dans toute la Louysiane de Lieu plus propre — pour un Etablissement, que celui-là [viz Riviere Ohio] ni où il importe davantage d'en avoir un. . . . . D'ailleurs, la communication avec le Canada n'y est pas moins facile, que par la Riviere des Illinois, & le chemin est beaucoup plus court. —

"The Lake Ontario or Frontenac — is easily navigable "and that with great Vessels. Father Hennepin Chap. 6.th —

"It were easy to build on the Sides of these Lakes an Infinite "number of Considerable Towns which might have communi="cation one with another by Navigation for five hundred leagues "together and by an inconceivable Commerce which would "establish itself amongst them." Id.m Chap. 11.

In 1678 the French had a Brigantine of Ten Tons on the Lake Ontario. chap. 14.

In 1679 A Ship of Sixty Tons on Lake Erie. Chap. 19.

The whole Back Countries which they divide into Canada — and Louisania they call New France.

The English Measures therefore should be.

I.mo To open themselves a Passage to and a Communication with the Indians.

II.dly To Disjoin and keep separate Louisania and Canada.

III.dly

III.d To throw off this Yoke of Forts which the French are laying on their Backs.

The only way for the English to do this is to become Masters of the Indian Countries so as to secure themselves and to protect the Indians. Then and then only would the English have a Real and actual Interest and alliance with the Indians.—

There appear two ways of Effecting this.
Either to dispute with Force of Arms every Pass and Hold in the Country with the French and to secure such with Forts and Garrisons.
Or to become Masters of the Lakes and to acquire the Dominion of that Navigation.

The first consider'd—
The French Government in Canada is a military United Power. Is calculated for Military adventures is founded and—actually settled in such Adventures. Does not consist of—Farms and Settlements of Farmers; but of Forts and Settlements of Soldiers. Is actually possessd of such Passes and Holds and has secured them by Forts. The undertaking such Military adventures and building and garrisoning such Forts is but actually carrying on the ordinary method and regular Plan of settling their Colonies. For which both the People and Government of Canada is Form'd. Whereas the English Provinces consist of Farms and Farmers and Settlements of Labouring not fighting men, who must live and maintain their Families by the—Culture of their respective Settlements; cannot therefore be draughted out and employ'd in Military adventures without ruining them, their families, and their Settlements. They cannot settle and Fight too. They cou'd Fight as well as the French but then must give over settling. They make the best Settlements in the World but then this places the necessity of their Labouring on a particular spot. Whereas Military adventures requires them to be unsettled ready to march and be employ'd at any place

ab

at any time. As thus the English Provinces are not in their Constituents so neither are they in their Government Form'd for Military service. They have no Military Establishment, No part of them selected train'd and kept a constant standing Force (as the French have) for this service alone. The French therefore will alway be as they have hitherto been Masters in the Field. They will beat us at the Dispute of every pass were they even to sit out with us at this Moment. What they have they can keep; what we had they have taken part from us and can take the rest when they will. But as they are now situated have Forts and Garrisons in almost every Pass of the Country. They can at a moments warning draw together an Army well serv'd with Artillery in any part of the Back Continent. While the English if they could raise one in a Year or two's time could not march it (as they are now circumstanced) to any place where it was wanted while the necessity of the service continued.

The Measure therefore most reasonable and most likely to succeed is to sett the first Step where we have already a Footing. We have in the heart of the Indian Country a Fort a garrison, a Port. Under the Defence of this the English may build a Fleet that shall —

1 Open itself a Passage and Communication to the Indians.

2 They may Establish a Trade of the most easy management and the greatest Profitts.

3 That would divide and cutt off Louisania from Canada.

1 This is a Pass the French are not possess'd off. a Pass that all the Forts they have built are of no use to the Defence of. A Pass that the English in their own way, in which they have alway been superior to the French, could dispute with the French and beat them out of. A Pass where our proper Force would be united and where no Artifice of the French could divide and dissipate it. &c &c.

2.

5

2, The navigation of the Lakes would Establish a Mart where the Indians of every Nation would resort.

"In summer time several Northern Nations come to hunt "and fish in these Parts [he here speaks of the Lake Superior] "and brings with them the Beaver skins they have got in the "Winter in order to truck with the Coureurdes de Bois who do not "fail to meet them every Year.

Lahontan's Memoires of North Amer. pag 214.

If the Trade of the Hudson's Bay Company which was it were only on the Shirts of this great Continent is found so beneficial. What might not this be that is in the very heart of it.

The Back settlements will in time want a Vent for their Produce. This trade would open to them such a Vent.

1 & 2, Being masters of this Lake and this trade would give the English the Command of the Indian Country and Consequently of the Indians. which is the only way to preserve their Fidility and alliance — 'Tis the only way to enable them to continue our Friends.

The Example of the Navigation and Trade of the Caspian Lake may not only be a Rule of Experiment, but is also a most encouraging Example. —

Many other Reasons for and Consequences of this Measure might be offered, but this Paper does not mean to give Reasons but to propose Considerations.

3. If the English were Masters of the Lakes and had consequently the Friendship of the Indians. The French could have little or no communication between Louisania and Canada. And no communication, no Effectual one, with most of the Forts they have built up and down the Country. &c &c.

Upon the whole this Measure is adapted to the Nature of the Strength of the Provinces who are maritime and numbers of whose People are Mariners. Take into this Denomination Boat men and perhaps one third or a quarter at least may be such.

Quare?

The

The Navigation of the Sea and River on one side and of the Lakes on the other would form these Provinces into a Kingdom equal if not superior to the Kingdom of New France.

All that can be done at present is under the defense of Fort Oswego to secure the Dominion of the Lake Ontario. And in the Mean while to secure by Forts the Passes upon the Frontiers of our own Settlements [Distinguish here the Frontiers of the Settlements from the Frontiers of the Provinces] and those of our Allies, to protect our selves and them. This being done we should attempt and acquire, for it is in our power, the Dominion of all the Lakes. (perhaps the Lake Superior excepted. — New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Rhode Island might be allotted to Lake Champlain — Connecticutt. New York and New Jersey to Lake Ontario. Pensylvania Maryland Virginia and Perhaps the Carolinas too, to Lakes Erie. — Illinois &c. —

"If the English would pursue their Measures to the best "advantage they ought to engage the Sonontouanes [the "Senakas] or the Goyogouins [Cayugas] to go and settle "upon the Banks of the Lake Erie, near the mouth of the "River Conde and at the same time they ought to build "a Fort there with some long Barques and Brigantines; for "this is the most convenient and advantageous Post of "all that Country and that for an Infinity of Reasons "which I am obliged to conceal. Besides this Fort they should "build another at the mouth of the Riviere de Iroquois and "then it would be absolutely impossible for the Coureurs de "Bois to reach the Lakes." —

Lahontan — page 273.

Kowall

Appendix

This Measure respecting the Management of Indian affairs is offered as consequential of the Plan of a general Union of the Provinces, or may be applyed as an Expedient in the mean time till such Union can take place.

The original natural Form under which the Indian —

country

Country lay living Mat of a Forest Stocked not with Sheep or Oxen or Horses not with Beasts of Labour and Domestic Animals but only with wild Beasts and Game; all that this bountry afforded for food or raymunt must be Hunted for The Indians therefore would consequently be as they were in Fact not Landworkers but Hunters, not Setlers but Wanderers They would therefore consequently never have a in fact they never had any Idea of Property in Land. They would consequently never have a in fact they never had any one common fixed Interest; any one Communion of Rights and Actions, one Civil union and consequently not any Government. They know no such thing as an Administrative or Executive Power properly so called. They allow the Authority of Advice a kind of Legislative Authority. But there is no Civil Coertion They never had any one Collective Actuating Power of the whole or any Magistrate or Magistrates to Execute such.

But the Country appearing now under a very different Form and they the Indians being under very different circumstances arising from Trade Treaties and War begin to feel rather than see to find by Experience rather than reason the Necessity of a Civil Union of Power and Action and that these Circumstances have in fact for many Years been forming and have at length form'd to them such a Collective Power. These People are precisely in that point of Circumstances where a Community that was before only one of Society is becoming that of Government

In all their actions therefore of late Years whether of Treaty or War they have recurr'd to some Agent to actuate this Power They are not only become capable of such a general Leading; but their circumstances require it. The circumstances with which they are connected have form'd them into a State; but from the Circumstances of the

Society

Society under which they live they can never have amongst themselves a state holder: Their circumstances require and look out for some such; some such they must have, and if we do not find such for them, the French will, and are actually attempting it. Further as they know not nor acknowledge any leading power but that of Authority — there can be no nominal visible appointment of such Leader: They will never appoint such within themselves nor will they ever submit to any one appointed from without This was the mistake of the Governor of Canada which had like to have lost him all the Cachnüagas two years ago. —

Therefore such Person or Persons as can acquire or actually are in possession of this Leading Power this Authority with them can be this Agent, this Leader, this Stateholder &c.

Facts and the actual state of the circumstances of the Indian affairs and of the French measures show the necessity of such an office, and it were needless to point out the use and beneficial consequences of such. —

Pontiac.

Considerations towards a General Plan of the Measures of the English Provinces.

By T. Pownall Esq.r

Rec.d with Lieu.t Gov.r Delancey's Lett.r dated y.e 22.d July 1754.

Rec.d Oct.br y.e 16.th
Read — 24 } 1754.

Kk 22

Measures necessary to be taken with the Six Nations and other matters requisite to be preserved, towards defeating the designs of the French on the British Continent. /

As the Six Nations and their Allies, are doubtless much alterd from what they were some years ago, especially since the French have from time to time without being interrupted, been treating with them, and as all States are liable to Vicissitudes from some cause or other, which it may be loss of time now to look into, tho' I am sorry to say a partial defection of these States is too manifest: Therefore it may be best to direct our management according to the present Exigency.

Imprimis it is not reasonable to suppose that one or two British Governments should, or ever can continue to retain in the British Interest, such a number of People as the Six Nations amount to while we are sure to be so far out bid by as powerfull an opposite as the French, in the purchase of the Friendship of a People, who from their Situation are of the highest consequence to the preservation of all ours, and their Colonies, according as they are affected — The French being under the necessity of taking their Route through their Country in their march to the Southward, in order to perfect that fatal line of communication between their most distant Settlements, by means of which to lessen our borders and to make continual discents upon our defenceless Frontiers, and crouding us into the Sea; It is our business as industriously to obstruct their designs at all Events. The Eyes of all the Western Tribes of Indians are upon the behaviour of the Six Nations, whose fame of Power, may in some measure exceed the reality, while they only Act a timid and Neutral part. This I apprehend to be their Modern Stile. Now to hinder the Incursions of the French, and to revive the Spirits of the Six Nations and their Allies, nothing can conduce more to these desireable Ends, than first, establishing

Garrisons

Garrisons in the most commanding places among them; for till such time as their Familys and Corn Lands &c. are covered and protected by us, it will be difficult, if at all practicable, to obtain their assistance against the French on any Emergency.

I am now to mention the Sentiments of the Six Nations in regard to the Settlements intended to be made at Ohio; they dont like that either the French or English should Establish themselves there, it being their best hunting ground; they rather expected me should assist in keeping and driving the French off them — that we should build Forts only to restrain the French from coming down further upon our selves. I believe were the French hindered from settling, we could have treated with them for those Lands, as they never refused us the preemption which is more pleasing to them, being without Hostility, than for the French to take them as it were by Force, and treat them as tho they were conquered.

To enumerate other requisites, necessary to counteract our common Enemy, it is to be observed, that there are Stores provided for all Indians at Niagara, and all other French trading Houses and Forts to the Westward, which are not only Sold, but given occasionally, as the Indians stand in need of them: Such kind of Encouragement should be provided for by an allowance to the King's Officer at Oswego — for at any other Forts, or Trading Houses that may be built in the Indian Country) who should always be Comissary to regulate the Trade. This allowance should be expended in some Clothing for presents, also Arms Ammunition, and particularly provisions to be —

given

given when he treats with the Foreign Indians; they being from their long Journey thither, always in need of them there, and on their return to their own Country.

A strict look out at Oswego should be kept to hinder the French from passing by there, up the Onondaga River, among the six Nations, either to trade with or corrupt them. There should be some English continually residing in every Nation, whether Military Officers, or others, to keep up a continued Correspondence. The different Governments on the Continent should do the same both by Sea and Land, quite from Georgia through the Country of the Indians inhabiting both Carolinas from South to North, that the several Colonies may be alarmed of the Actions or designs of the French; this in a great measure might be done by Indians, from the Senekas Country, as they keep up a strict Correspondence with the different Nations inhabiting beyond them, and that being our Frontier as well as theirs, it would be necessary to have a Fort there (Senecas) Garrisoned by Soldiers as soon as may be. Here I can't help observing that for want of a strict Correspondence betwen the several Governments as above, in regard to Indian Affairs, that the Indians must think there can be no Union in our Councils, when it has been known more than once, that the Six Nations have been invited to a Conference by different Colonies at the same time. This looks among the Indians as tho' our Measures were not mutual, and occasions them to be divided in their Councils also, being doubtfull of ours acting with Vigour and unanimity Vizt against the French. The Post from Virginia if more certain, would, ~~would~~ be more usefull being but precarious at present.

A Fort also at Onondaga where the Six Nations and their Allies hold their General Council, would be very requisite, with a proper Officer and a brisk Party of Men; also a Missionary.

Smiths

C.O. 5/1066
ASSET WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Smiths to be Sent at proper Seasons to all the Tribes — to mend and keep in order their Arms and Working Utensils.

A Smith also at Oswego to repair the Arms Kettles &c. of the far Indians, who come there annually to — trade.

A farther encouragement to a more general trade and intercourse with all the Indians far and — near at that place, and it is a general mart or fair, — and known to them all, might be promoted by taking off the duties, that the Traders could afford to undersell the French. a place of such universal importance should be largely supported by the Colonies in general; It being of more concern towards the retaining all the Indians upon the Continent in the British Interest, than any — thing yet proposed; that is a proper Officer at that place with the allowances aforementioned; a Sufficient — number of Men to resist the French if attacked, and to hinder their passing the Onondaga River, or the — South Side of the Lake Ontario. the Fort should be much larger and stronger than at present. It is by its Situation capeable of being made so strong as to render it impregnable to any attempts the — French might make against it. This would be to — good purpose, and under the protection of this Fort — might Vessels be built for Service on the Lake.

Young Men of Learning, at least Grammar, to reside among the Tribes of the Onondagas, Senecas, and Mohawks, in order to become good Interpreters — in every Dialect, which are much wanted. These — might serve also for Schoolmasters or Catechists.

It —

It might be expedient to remind the Indians of their Ancestors having given and rendered up all that Land or Country, at least ye pretensions of it, where their beaver hunting was, to his Majesty King William, which they won by the sword 30 Years before; besides their own native Land: which they gave — also and earnestly desired an Instrument to be drawn to that purpose, and that it might be carryed over to the King by — Robert Livingston then their Secretary, which afterwards was done in the year 1727 — The Question then should be whether the Indians will join us in defending their own property in those Lands, while we have only a promise of the protection. If they answer in the Affirmative, it will be necessary that all the Colonies give them the strongest assurances that they will support them against the French or any Enemy, as far as the nature of our Constitution will admit of.

They the five Nations, should be reminded, that they have frequently desired that the Covenant Chain might reach from New York to Chenondanah in the Senecas Country, and that all the People who live within it, may be secure from the Attempts of an Enemy; That they further said they would remove the end of it to Teughsaghronty [Detroit] or Niveighteuhook, were it in their power, but that the French would mock at it, as they have taken it into their possession already against their Will; sending People thither to build a Fort: but that they hoped the French would speedily be removed. This may serve to shew the Early and continued Encroachments of the French.

Wm Johnson.

July 1754

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Measures towards defeating
the designs of the French
on the British Continent,
Laid before the Congress
at Albany in June and
July 1754. by Col.o Johnson.

New York. /

Recd with Lieut.t Delancey's Lett.r
dated y.e 22.d July 1754.

Recd Octbr y.e 16.th
Read — 24 } 1754.

Kk. 23.

To all Christian People
to whom this present writing shall come
Joseph Hendrick and Cornelius owners
proprietors and Native Maquas Indians
and Sachems in behalf of that Nation Sends
greeting Know yee that for and in
consideration of sixty pounds current mony
of the Province of Newyork to them in hand
paid at and before the ensealing and delivery
hereof by Sampson Shelton Broughton Esqr
Attorney General of the said Province in compa-
=ny the Receit whereof is hereby acknowledged
and of and from every part and parcel
thereof Doth fully clearly and absolutely
acquit Exonerate and discharge him the said
Sampson Shelton Broughton Esq in company
their heirs Executors Administrators and
Assigns for ever. have therefore granted
Bargained Sold Aliened Released Enfeofed
Conveyed and confirmed and by these
presents do fully clearly and absolutely
grant Bargain Sell Alien Release Enfeof
Convey and confirm unto the said Sampson
Shelton Broughton Esq in company All
that certain Tract or parcel of Woodland
situate lying and being in the County of
Albany in the province aforesaid called or

known

C.O. 5/1066
ALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

known by the Name of Kayadenosseras
adjoining to the North bounds of Schonectady
Patent together with the vacancies that lyes
between the Aelplaes down along the River
about one Mile more or less on the last side
thereof to the west bounds of Saraghtoga
Patent on the North side thereof to Albany
River and on the west side thereof to the
Native Indians and proprietors thereof for
their improvement the North bounds run-
ning along S.t River of Albany To have
and to hold the aforesaid Tract or parcel
of Woodland and all other the premises
thereunto belonging with all and singular
other the premises and appurtenances unto
him the said Samuel Shelton Broughton
Esq.r and the rest in Company their heirs and
Assigns for ever in his and their quiet and
peaceable Possession and Enjoym.t forever.
In Testimony whereof the said Indian Propri-
etors have hereunto set their hands and Seals in
Albany this 6.th day of October in the third year
of her Maties Reign Anno Dom.i 1704.

Signed Sealed and delivered in the
presence of us being first interpreted
by Hillitie Van Olinda sworn
Interpreter.

Hend.k Janzen Justus.
Johannes Roosboom Justus.
Johannes Luyter Justus.
Johannes Mynbert Justus.

his
Joseph Qmark (Ls)
Hendrick [illegible] his mark (Ls)
Gedeon [illegible] his mark (Ls)
his
Amos Qmark (Ls)

New York 22.d July 1754 A true Copy of the Record Exam.d Per

P. Ryers Dep.y

4.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

6.th Paper from New York

Copy

Deed from the Indians for a Tract of Land called Kayderosseras dated in Albany, y.e 6.th of Octo.r 1704.

New York.

Rec.d with Lieu.t Gov.r Delancey's Lett.r dated y.e 22.d July 1754.

Rec.d Oct.br y.e 16.th
Read —— 24 } 1754.

Kk. 24

Extract of Letters Patent Granted
under the Great Seal of the Province of New York
bearing date the second day of November 1708 to
Nanning Harmense, Johannis Beckman, Rip Van Dam,
Ann Bridges, May Bickley, Peter Fauconnier, Adrian
Hooghlandt, Johannis Fisher, John Tudor, Jacob Hooglandt,
John Stevens, John Tatham and Sampson Broughton,
"All that Tract of Land Situate Lying and being in the
County of Albany called Kayaderosses alias Queens Borough
Beginning at a place on Schonectady River about three
Miles distant from the Southwesterly Corner of the bounds
of Nastigione the said place being the Southwesterly corner
of the Patent Lately granted to Nanning Harmense
Peter Fauconnier and others thence along the said
Schonectady River Westerly to the Southeasterly Corner of a
Patent lately granted to William Appell thence along the
Easterly northerly and westerly lines of the said William
Appells Patent down to the abovesaid River thence to
Schonectady bounds or the Southeasterly Corner of the
said Patent on the said River soe along the Easterly
Northerly and Westerly bounds thereof down to the said
River againe, thence along the said River up Westerly
to the Southeasterly bounds of a Tract of Land lately
granted to Ebenezar Willson and John Abeel and so along
the said Patent round to the Southwesterly corner thereof
on the said Schonectady River thence continuing to
Run Westerly up along the said Schonectady River to a
place or Hill called Tionondehowe being five Miles distant
or thereabouts from the said southwesterly corner of the
said Willsons and Abeels Patent thence northerly to the

Northwestmost

Northwestmost head of a Creek called Kayadorosies about fourteen Miles more or less thence eight Miles more Northerly thence Easterly or Northeasterly to the third falls on Albany River about twenty Miles more or less thence along the said River down Southerly to the Northeasterly bounds of Saraghtoga thence along the said Saraghtoga as northerly Westerly and Southerly Bounds on the said River thence to the Northeasterly Corner of Anthony Van Schayches Land on the said River so northerly and Westerly along the said Van Schayches flatent to the Northeast corner of the abovesaid flatent granted to Manning Fauconnier and others thence along the Northerly and Westerly boundsthereof down to the abovesaid River of Schonectady being the place where it first begun.

Yielding Rendring and paying therefore Yearly and every year from henceforth unto us our heirs and successors at our Custom House at New York to our Collector or Receiver General there for the time being at or upon the Feast day of the Annunciation of our Blessed Virgin Mary commonly called Lady Day the Rent or Sum of four pounds Current money of New York in Lieu and Stead of all other Rents duty Services dues and demands whatsoever Provided allways and these presents are upon that Condition that if no improvement be already had or made upon the said Tract of Land hereby granted as aforesaid nor on any part or parcel thereof that then and in such case they the said Manning Harmense Johannis Beckman Rip Van Dam Ann Bridges May Bickley

Peter

Peter Fauconnier, Adrian Hooglandt, Johannes Fisher,
John Tudor, Joris Hooglandt, John Stevens, John Latham,
and Sampson Broughton their heirs and Assigns
some or one of them shall within the time and space
of Seven years now next following, from and after
the date hereof settle clear and make Improvement
of or upon some part or parcel thereof. In Testimony &c.

New York 22d July 1751. A true Extract of the Record Exam.

By Jos Brown D. Sec.y

2. November 1708.

Extract of the Letters Patent for a Tract of Land called Kayaderosseras, dated ye 2^d. of November 1708. New York.

Rec.^d with Lieu.^t Govr Delancey's Lett.^r dated ye 22.^d July 1754.

Rec.^d Oct.^br ye 16.th
Read — 24.th } 1754.

Kk. 25.

Rec.d Oct.r 16.r 1754, with Lieut.t Gov.r Delancey's Lett.r dated y.e 22.d of July 1754.
Rec.d July 29, 1754.

THE NUMB. 600

NEW-YORK GAZETTE:

Read Oct. 24. 1754 OR,

THE 133

WEEKLY POST-BOY.

With the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestick.

Messieurs Printers,

You will oblige many of your present Readers, and others who may be such hereafter, by giving the following a Place in your Paper.

FELLOW CITIZENS,

IT is but a few Weeks since it was hinted to you in this Paper, that a Petition was laid before the Corporation of this City, for granting *Rotten-Row* to sundry Proprietors of the opposite Block; and that the said Petition was referred to a Committee appointed by the said Corporation, to pitch on Methods to prevent its being a publick Nuisance, it being represented as such in the said Petition, and to be prejudicial to the City in general.--- I am rather apt to think that they thought it a greater Nusance to themselves. *(I mean the Petitioners)* than really they did to the Publick; for this Reason only, that whilst it remain'd there in the Manner they were pleased to represent it in the Petition, they themselves were deprived of the Advantage of docking out; by which Means they would rob the Inhabitants of a Benefit to which the latter have a more undoubted Right in common.

As I observ'd before, a Committee was appointed to treat with the Petitioners about removing that great Nusance set forth in the Petition; but in such a Manner as that their Constituents should not hereafter reflect on their Conduct for any Mistep; that is, in giving away the City's Right in general, to any particular Set of People.--- A Resolution this worthy their Station.--- The Committee soon found the Petitioners Aim; and indeed, it was worth petitioning for, being 375 Feet in Length, and 200 in Depth, that is, as far out as the *New*, or *Cruger's Dock*. At £.300 each Lot, which I am sure it would sell for, 25 Feet to a Lot, amounts to £. 4500,--well worth asking for, if to be obtained on such easy Terms. To be brief: When these humble Petitioners found they could not get such a valuable Spot given them for bare asking for; (which belongs to you and me, my *Fellow Citizens*,) one of them, followed by a Son of *Neptune*, boldly bid the Committee open Defiance to dock out; which they, the Committee, reported from the Corporation they would do, if the then Proprietors would not do it on such Terms as was consistent with the publick Interest, and their own Characters. An Instance this of a despotic Disposition in one from whom we ought to expect something else; and of publick Spirit, Honour, Honesty, and our dear Liberty exerted in the other, I mean, the Members of the Committee: But this is only a Sample of what you may expect hereafter from such an infringing Disposition in the former.

I say, sell, or keep it for the Uses it was designed for, in spite of those bold Invaders of our Rights and Privileges: Happy are we such are not at the Head of Affairs. What a Difference, yea, what Change would be in case they were in a more exalted Station? Would they, I say, demean themselves as that true Patriot of his Country, our *L---t G---r*; no *Ohio* Capitation would be too, too easy Terms for us. It would be more commendable in them to turn their Thoughts on some effectual Means to dislodge the common Enemy, the *French*, with a small Part of their Estates, than engage the Whole at Law with the Corporation, for that which they have no more Right to than the Rest of their Fellow-Citizens, and would redound more to the Credit of them and their Posterity. But if they are for Law let them be convinced, the Publick has Money to maintain their Rights, and I hope has Spirit to resent Injuries, and believe will have Memory for Time to come. The Mine is open, and we have essayed the Metal tho Ore produces. Publick Spirit ---'s a publick Good; but an Infringment of our Liberty must be distructive and discouraging to our Country, being but a young one; especially in these perilous Times, having our common Enemy on one Side, and Oppression attempted on the other. Let us, like Men, exert ourselves in our Country's Cause, and not in the Words of the *Indian* Speaker *Hendrick*, "Set like a Company of old Women, "thoughtless of our Safety:" Let us, I say, bestir ourselves e're it's too late, and drive those bold Invaders of our Country from their unjust Possessions, and not enter into Civil Wars amongst ourselves; especially to lay Schemes to distress the Merchants in their Trade, by taking all Conveniency of Harbour from them for their Vessels in Winter, and the only one at present, though not the best. I hope a better one will be provided soon, as I hear a Scheme for such is in some forwardness: I say, encourage the Merchants; for without them we should be all *Africans*, and sold as they are to a People who employ their Time in Traffic, to better Advantage than common Labour; the Advantages of which produces them all the Wealth they and the Country they live in enjoy: (Avant Criticism,) as I mean honestly, and am no Writer; and solemnly declare, am not induced by any Party, but the publick Good, to put Pen to Paper in its Defence, as far forth as in my Power, (as the Saying is,) by letting them know what passes in this little World of ours. Now, where is that Champion or Champions of our Liberties, call'd on by the Author of a valuable Pamphlet, entitled,--- *Serious Considerations on the present State of Affairs in the Northern Colonies* [Sold by *Parker* and *Weyman* in *Beaver-Street*, Price SIX-PENCE.] Stand forth, I say as he does, and exert yourselves, Mr. or Messrs. *Reflectors*;--- (I dare say you will find an *honest Printer* in this Place, if *you properly apply*, notwithstanding your late daring and arrogant Assertion to the Contrary.) I say, stand forth now in your Country's Cause; infuse some publick Spirit among us, to raise us out of our present Lethargy; root out all private Faction, and depend on the well-Wishes of many of your Country-Men; and be assured of mine,

A CITIZEN.

LONDON.

TO be a tame Spectator of the Supineness, Neglect, or Credulity of *certain People*, who preside at the Helm of our Politics, would argue the highest Depravity, the lowest Abjectness; would be giving up all Pretensions to the Characters of an *Englishman* and a Patriot!

I had rather be a Dog, and bay the Moon,
Than such a Briton!

We are at length confirm'd, that the *French* Court has neither Honour or Sincerity, and resolved to strike a home Stroke, before she is in a Condition to face us on our native Element, or has Leasure to treat or negociate us out of our Senses. Our Ministers are Christians; honest, believing Christians; who adhere strictly to the Maxims of their Blessed Saviour, in Politics as well as Religion, *---Speak no Evil, nor think any Harm of their Neighbours!* How then, do you think they can be a Match for the *French*, who are so far from understanding these Maxims of Uprightness, that, the Aggrandizement of their *Monarque*, and the temporal Interest of his Subjects, are their only Pursuit; and, to attain those Ends, many Years woeful Experience has convinc'd us, they stick neither at making nor breaking the most solemn Engagments Besides, is not Lord *Albemarle* so highly caress'd, complemented, trusted, and obliged at *Paris*, as to have made any Reports to their Prejudice ungrateful? Have they not given the most polite and genteel Answers, to all his late Demands, that can be---*it shall be enquir'd into---nothing shall be omitted to convince you how much we prize the Friendship of his Britannick Majesty---it is the King's Desire nothing should be done contrary to the Tenor of Treaties, &c. &c.* Are not these Sugar Plumbs, that would even operate to the softening of *Dutch Phlegm*, and how much more to lull asleep, and into a pleasing Composure, the Doubts and Scruples of a brave, generous, open, *true born Englishman?*

Our great Politicians must be perfect Moles not to have discover'd the artful Finesse, with which they have been play'd off, and made the laughing Stock of all *Europe*. The *French*, with a strong Fleet, have got the Start of us, and are even now ploughing the Ocean towards that distant Climate, not many Years since render'd famous, or rather infamous, to some People, by the Exploits of *Bourdenaye*, even in View of an *English* Squadron; there to re-inforce the enterprizing *Dupleix*, who has given so many Instances of his being a capable and cunning Opponent. There, for ought I can see, at present, to the contrary, the brave *Lawrence*, and his victorious Handful of Men, will be in Danger of being cut to Pieces, and all our Settlements of being destroyed, unless Providence is more gracious in protecting us than we seem to deserve. Now, who will offer at any Excuse? Will any pretend that we have not been dup'd and deceiv'd by *French* Politics, and that *Dunbar* has negociated, with our Company, to a very fine Purpose? Alas! if this was the first Time we had been serv'd so,---somewhat might be said;--- but has it not been thus, for these 25 or 30 Years? Have we not lavish'd our Blood and our Treasure, to rectify the Mistakes and Oversights of a Parcel of Ministers, that would disgrace the Cabinet, even of the Monarch of *Bantam*; who shine only in garbling at Elections, and whose Deputies know more, and do more than themselves? Therefore the general Adage---*humanum est errare*, is no Excuse here---*forewarn'd, forearm'd*, should have been the Case! If a Minister does not profit by the Mistakes of himself and his Predecessors it is a sure Sign of Incapacity, and his Continuance in Post or Power is a Disgrace to the Prince or Nation who suffer by his Blunders: It is true, we are manning a Fleet to pursue the *French*; but I fear it will turn out a *wild Goat's Chase*.--- They have got too much the Heels of us to render our Pursuit effectual. We may press Men, and beat up for Volunteers, if we will, and I hope it will not be too late; but in that Case we must be solely indebted to that Power that rules the Winds and Waves, and directs their Course, and who has so often interpos'd in Behalf of this Nation; for, sure I am, to no human wisdom or foresight the Preservation of our Settlements in that part of the World will be owing. The People I complain of, are adroit enough at the Management of domestic Affairs, and so pliable as to accord to the Humour of the Nation even against their own Sentiments and Designs; but as to foreign Concerns they really seem more ignorant than is possible to think any Men can be who have been Abroad, read a Book, or survey'd a Chart. I must own, I cannot help, on the other Side, admiring the indefatigable Disposition of the Ministers of *France*, who, at a Time that religious Dissentions seem to engross all their Attention, at home, can so easily embarrass and perplex the Affairs of the rest of the World, pursue so profoundly the commercial Schemes of the great *Colbert*, and whilst treating to compose differences between the two Courts, so secretly carry on and fit out an Armament against us.

Have not our Ministers, had sufficient Experience, since the late Peace, of the Want of Sincerity in that Court, to be upon their Guard, and not to trust or believe in any of their Pretences? In *America*, the *Indians* have, by their Countenance and Encouragement, been at continual Hostilities with us, about the neutral Islands, and the Limits in that Part of the World; in *Europe*, their Chicanery and double dealing. At length they have struck a Coup d'Etat, have slily stolen a Squadron to Sea, well provided, against one of the Jewels of our Commerce, whilst, in the *West Indies*, they openly attack us with their *Guarda-Costas*, under the same colour and shew of Right that the *Spaniards* have harrass'd us so long; and which, let it be remember'd, we first engaged the last War to revenge!

Rec.d with Lieu.t Gov.r Delancey's Letter dated y.e 22.d July 1754. Kk. 26
Rec.d Oct.r y.e 16.th 1754.

And now, our Seamen must be dragg'd through our Streets like Dogs, and sent to a remote, unhealthy Climate without Distinction, as to the Ports of the World for which the Business of their lives has fitted them; and Soldiers must be draughted from *Ireland*, when those of the Garrisons of *Gibraltar* and *Minorca*, could the pressing Exigency allow it, are the only Men thinly to survive the sultry Heats they are destin'd to encounter. Come, come, this is very hard usage; nay, almost intollerable: when the Partizan *Bisher* was raising Troops all over *Germany*, so long since, every sensible Man surmiz'd what has happen'd----save these very sagacious Gentlemen----for whose strange neglect, so many thousand Families are now in Tears, occasion'd by the sudden, unexpected Impress of their supports.

Saturday last arrived here the Brig Brilliant, *Capt.* Jefferies, *from* Holland, *in* 11 *Weeks, but last in* 9 *from* Dover, *where having obtained some English Prints, we have taken the following Articles from them, viz.*

LISBON, *April* 9.

IT is looked upon as a Thing out of Doubt that Dona Maria, their Majesties fourth Daughter, who is almost eight Years old, is contracted to the Duke of Calabria, who is about ten Months younger. It is very strongly reported, that the Marriage formerly mentioned between Don Lewis of Spain and the Princess of Beira will certainly take Effect, and that much sooner than perhaps the World imagines. What adds Credit to this is, that there are Surveyors actually employed to make the Limits between Galicia and Castile, the former being the Price proposed to induce our Court to consent to this Marriage.

Turin, April 26. We hear, that at the Instances of the Inhabitants of San Remo, the Emperor has taken that City and its Territory under his Protection, as a Fief holding of the Empire. A Report generally prevails in publick, that this Fief may probably become subject to the King of Sardinia, in consequence of certain Arrangements respecting the Affairs of Italy.

Paris, May 1. A Report is current here, (which, however, we confess has not the least Appearance of Foundation) that the English settled at Toulon have received Orders to quit the Place immediately.

Hague, May 13. We have abundance of Letters here which give an Account of the Action in the East Indies, which happen'd the latter End of August, and that it was follow'd by a second as brisk as the former.

LONDON.

April 29. His Excellency the Duke de Mirepoix, the French Ambassador, is ill of a Fever.

May 11. On Monday 34 Witnesses were examin'd at the Old Bailey in Favour of Elizabeth Canning, when the Court adjourn'd to Tuesday. About 11 o'Clock the same Morning, the Council for the Prosecution of Eliz. Canning began their Reply, and finished it about half an Hour after Two, at which Time the Charge to the Jury began, which was delivered partly by the Recorder and partly by Baron Legge.

Tuesday Night about Ten o'Clock the Trial of Eliz. Canning ended, and about a Quarter before Twelve the Jury withdrew: After being out upwards of two Hours they brought in their Verdict, *Guilty of Perjury, but not wilful and corrupt*; but being informed by the Court, that their Verdict must be either Guilty or Not Guilty, they again withdrew, and in a short Time after brought her in *Guilty*; but recommended her to the Mercy of the Court; after which she was committed to Newgate. Sentence will be passed on her next Monday.

*** *It is allowed on all Hands, that there never happened a stranger Affair than this between* Elizabeth Canning *and* Mary Squires *a Gipsy. On the one Side we find a poor Servant Girl, who had always bore a good Character, depositing on Oath that she had been violently taken away by two Men, and confined for Twenty eight Days, with no other Subsistence than a very few Crusts of Bread and a Pitcher of Water, with other very extraordinary and uncommon Circumstances. On the other Hand we find credible Witnesses depositing that the very Gipsy whom the Girl swore against, as robbing her and confining her at Enfield Wash, near London, was at the Time no less than 120 Miles distant: while others as credible witnesses depositing that she was actually at Enfield the time the Fact was committed, as sworn by the Girl. These Contradictions have in Reality puzzled the whole Nation.*

Private Letters from Paris take Notice, that the Plan of M. Dupleix, their Governor General in the East-Indies, is, to make himself Master of all the Coromandel Coast; that they are so intent upon this Project, that their India Trade is much neglected, several of the Company's Vessels being converted into fighting Ships; and that when they have carried this Point, they will in Earnest set about enlarging their Trade.----This looks a little like a Puff; and we presume they will alter their Notes at Paris, when they hear of the Accounts brought by the Delaware.

Some Advices from Holland say, that the Armament of France and Spain are intended against the Grand Dutchy of Tuscany, which they propose to add to the Infant Don Philip's Territories; and that the Recal of the Parliament of Paris will be the Æra of this Invasion.

Some other Folks doubt whether the Fleet said to be intended for Algiers may not call at Corsica.

We hear that the Parliament will meet the 13*th of June to chuse a Speaker, and fill up the Vacancies in the House of Commons, occasioned by Deaths, and Persons being elected for more Places than one.*

May 16. *Tuesday the Court of Aldermen ordered the Port of London to be open for the Importation of Oats, &c.*

The Letters by the last Ship received from the East Indies, bring an Account of the Death of Capt. Chase, who had the Command of a Company in that Service, and had served in the Marines here in the last War. This young Gentleman (the younger Brother of a good Family in Buckinghamshire) being an Officer whom Major Lawrence knew he could confide in, was sent by the Major with a small Party to a Village called Trividy; which, as soon as the Major retired with the main Army, was surrounded and attacked by the whole French Force. Capt. Chase had the Courage to make a Sally on them in the Night, in which he lost two Officers and several Indian Soldiers. The next Day the French summoned him to surrender, which he refusing, they battered his little Fortification in Breach, and his Indian Soldiers mutinying and refusing to defend it, they were all taken Prisoners. The Captain was carried to Pondicherry, where he survived his Misfortune but a few Days, leaving behind him the Character of a brave and experienced Officer, tho' under 29 Years of Age.

By a private Letter from a certain great City in Italy, we are assured, that the Court of Rome is exceedingly struck with the Declaration of the Grand Master of Malta, and have resolved to remonstrate in the strongest Terms, to the Court of Naples, the great Inconveniences that must necessarily follow, in Case the Knights should abandon the Island of Malta, and purchase that of Corsica.

The last Letters from Vienna acquaint us, that tho' the Imperial Court is earnestly and equally desirous to preserve the Tranquility of Italy, and the Empire, yet the Judges is not at all inconsistent with that Intention to arm in order to prevent any Surprize; and that this is the only Reason for marching a considerable Corps of Troops into Lombardy, and causing one much more considerable to encamp in Bohemia.

Our Correspondents at Paris intimate, that in the same Proportion Civil Disputes grow more and more obscure, the Clouds of Ecclesiastical Darkness break up; the Clergy having submitted that the Parliament shall be restored, and all Things relating to Schism adjusted.

Two Men of War of 20 *Guns will soon be put on the Stocks at Chatham; and the Royal Anne, now building at Woolwich, will be launched this Summer.*

May 20. On Saturday their Graces the Duke and Dutchess of Dorset arriv'd at their House at the Cockpit from Ireland. And Yesterday his Grace waited on his Majesty at Kensington, and was most graciously receiv'd.

We hear that 150 Busses will be employ'd this Year in the Service of the Free British Fishery, besides Jaggers, &c.

The Recorder of London lies dangerously ill at his House in Dean-Street, Soho.

There is a Report from Genoa, that Troops have been sent for from the French Court in order to assist them in the present Juncture of Affairs. And, 'tis said, that notwithstanding French Troops were on the Borders of Piedmont and Provence, ready to pass into Italy, the Court of Turin seems not to take Notice thereof.

Some private Letters from Paris give a dreadful Account of the Ravages made by an epidemical Sickness in that Capital.

Our last Accounts from Gibraltar mention, that a very rich French Felucca had been lately taken by a Barbary Corsairs, and that a Letter had been received at Cadiz from Teneriff, giving Intelligence of, and describing a Spanish Ship that had been carried off from thence, with a Design of going a Pirating to the West Indies.

We hear that some Officers belonging to the French Army, having lately enlisted some Persons in Ireland and Scotland for the Service of the French King, were obliged to a hasty Departure from both Kingdoms, leaving behind them a considerable Number of Men they had retained for the above Service.

Some Englishmen at Toulon having talked too freely concerning the Armaments in that Port, and the State of Affairs between the two Nations, Intimation was given them to speak with more Reserve, or quit the Place. And this it was which gave Rise to the Report that all the English settled at Toulon were ordered to leave it in a limited Time.

BOSTON, *July* 22.

WHEREAS Rumours have been spread in this Town, that War has been declared in England against France, by which Means the Fishermen belonging to this Province have been greatly terrified, and many of them have left the Fishing Ground without finishing their Voyage, to their great Loss, and the publick Damage, and many Persons on the Frontiers have gone into Garrison, to the Hurt of their Husbandry and Business;

THESE are therefore, by express Order from His Excellency, to inform the Publick, that strict Inquiry hath been made into those Reports, but no Foundation of them can be found; and that upon the 18th Inst. arrived a Vessel at *New-Casco* from *Liverpool*, in seven Weeks Passage, the Master whereof being carefully examined, has affirmed, that no Declaration of War was made when he left *England*, that he heard of, and that he did not understand that there was any Probability of a speedy War.

J. WILLARD, *Secr.*

Tuesday last, the Hon. Thomas Hutchinson, Esq; one of the Commissioners on the Part of this Province at the late Treaty at Albany, arrived in Town; and we hear, that all the Indians had left that City in good Temper; but that a smaller Number appeared at the Interview, than had usually done on the like Occasion. That the Commissioners from the several Governments were unanimously of Opinion, that an Union of the Colonies was absolutely necessary, in order to defeat the destructive Schemes of the French.---That a Representation of the State of the British Interest on this Continent, with Relation to the French and Indians, has been drawn up and approved of; and that a Plan of an Union has likewise been projected, and will, by the Commissioners, be laid before their respective Constituents. All the Commissioners left Albany the 12th Instant.

By Letters from Halifax we have Advice, that 60 Labourers are engaged there in clearing and levelling a Piece of Land for a Battery opposite Governor's Island Point, on Dartmouth Side, where they intend to plant 20 Guns. (*'Tis strange so necessary a Piece of Work has been neglected till this Time.*)

PHILADELPHIA, July 29.

Before we published our last, there were several Letters in Town, giving an Account of an Engagement, said to have happen'd the Beginning of this Month, between the English *and* French, *near the Ohio, much to the Disadvantage of the former, but as their Letters differ'd, and no Express had arriv'd with the News, we chose to defer inserting any Thing relating to the Affair, till we could do it with more Certainty; and we are now sorry to say it, the Particulars come to his Honour our Governor on Friday last (but too well attested) in a Letter from Colonel* Innes, *dated at* Winchester, *in* Virginia, *which is as follows, viz.*

HONOURED SIR,

HAVING Notice of a Person going to your Province immediately, I thought it proper, on this Occasion, to give you a short Detail of what hath lately happen'd.

After having regulated the March, and the Transportation of the *North-Carolina* Regiment, I immediately proceeded to *Williamsburgh*, and by my Commission from Governor *Dinwiddie*, as Commander in Chief of this Expedition, I set out for *Winchester*, where I arriv'd the 20th of *June*, in order to take the Command upon me, and to bring up the *New-York* two Independent Companies, with those of the *North-Carolina* Regiment, then upon their March from *Alexandria* for this Town.

Colonel *Washington*, with the *Virginia* Regiment, and Captain *M'Kay*, with the *South-Carolina* Independent Company, together did consist but of Four Hundred Men, of which a good many were sick, and out of Order.

On the third of *July* the *French*, with about Nine Hundred Men, and a considerable Body of *Indians*, came down upon our Incampment, and continued to fire, from all Quarters, from Eleven in the Morning till Night, when the *French* call'd out to our People, they would give them good Conditions, if they would capitulate, a Copy of which I here inclose you.

After the Capitulation the *French* demolished the Works, and in some Time after retir'd to the *Ohio*, taking two Captains as Hostages along with them. We all know the *French* are a People that never pay any Regard to Treaties longer than they find them confident with their Interest: and this Treaty they broke immediately, by letting the *Indians* demolish and destroy every Thing our People had, especially the Doctor's Box, that our Wounded should meet with no Relief. In this Action it is said we had about 100 Men kill'd and wounded, a Third whereof supposed to be kill'd; and it is reported we kill'd double the Number of the *French*. If this does not alarm the neighbouring Governments, nothing can; and I make no Doubt but the *French* will soon claim this fine Body of Land as their Right by Conquest, if we do not immediately raise a sufficient Force to convince them of the contrary. What I can learn of their Force, is, that they had 700 Men in their first Division, 800 in the next, and 500 in the last, not as yet join'd; which, with their *Indians*, make a considerable Body.

Colonel *Washington*, and Captain *M'Kay*, told me, there were many of our Friend *Indians* along with the *French*, sundry of which came up, and spoke to them, told them they were their Brothers, and ask'd them how they did, particularly, *Susquehanna Jack*, and others, who distinguished themselves by their Names; and it is also said, that some of the *Delawares* were there. We had not an *Indian* to assist when the Engagement commenced or ended.

It is my real Opinion, that nothing will secure to us the *Indians* now in our Friendship, if we allow ourselves to be baffled by the *French*; as it is very natural and common for a more polite People than the *Indians* to side with the strongest: So that there is a Necessity either to go into the Affair in Dispute heartily at once, or to give it up intirely. I am, SIR,

Winchester, July 12, 1754. Your most obedient Humble Servant, JAMES INNES.

CAPITULATION,

Granted by Monsieur De Villier, *Captain and Commander of Infantry and Troops of his most Christian Majesty, to those* English *Troops actually in the Fort of* Necessity, *which was built on the Lands of the King's Dominions, July the third,* 1754, *at Eight a Clock at Night, viz.*

As our Intentions have never been to trouble the Peace and good Harmony which reigns between the two Princes in Amity, but only to revenge the Assassination committed on one of our Officers, Bearer of a Citation, as appears by his Writings; as also to hinder any Establishment on the Lands of the Dominions of the King my Master; upon these Considerations, we are willing to grant Protection or Favour to all the English *that are in the said Fort, on the Conditions hereafter mentioned.*

ARTICLE I.

WE grant leave to the *English* Commander to retire with all his Garrison, and to return peaceably into his own country; and promise to hinder his receiving any insult from us *French*; and to restrain, as much as shall be in our Power, the Savages that are with us.

II.

It shall be permitted him to go out, and carry with him all that belongs to them, except the artillery, which we keep.

III.

That we will allow them the Honours of War, that they march out with Drums beating, and a Swivel Gun, being willing to shew them that we treat them as Friends.

IV.

That as soon as the Articles are signed by both Parties, the *English* Colours shall be struck.

V.

That To-morrow, at break of Day, a Detachment of *French* shall go and make the Garrison file off, and take Poſſeſſion of the Fort. VI.

As the *Engliſh* have their Cannon at Beauſejour, they are free to hide their Effects, and to come again and fetch for them, when they have a ſufficient Number of Horſes, &c. to carry them off, and that for this End they may have what Guards they pleaſe on Condition, that they give their Word of Honour, not to work upon any Buildings in this Place, or any Part of this Side the Mountain, during the Space of one Year, to commence from this day. VII.

And as the *Engliſh* have in their Power an Officer, two Cadets, and moſt of the Priſoners made in the Aſſaſſination of the Sieur *De Jumonville*, they muſt promiſe to ſend them back, with a ſafe Guard, to Fort *Du Quesne*, ſituated on the *Fine River*: And for Surety of their performing this Article, as well as the treaty, Mr. *Jacob Vanbraam*, and *Robert Stobo*, both Captains, ſhall be kept as Hoſtages, till the arrival of the *Canadians* and *French* abovementioned, we oblige ourſelves, on our ſide, to give an eſcort to return in ſafety theſe two Officers; and expecting to have our *French* in two Months and a half at fartheſt; a Duplicate of this being fix'd upon one of the Poſts of our Blockade the Day above named.

CON. VILLIER.

PHILADELPHIA, *July* 25.

Beſides what is mentioned in Colonel Innes's Letter, there is another in Town, wherein it is ſaid, that a Gentleman had arrived at Winchester, from North-Carolina, with Advice, that the two Companies who were on their March from that Place, to join the other Forces, were countermanded, the Governor having Advice, that the French were erecting Forts near the Back Parts of that Province. And that another Gentleman had come there from the South Branch of Potowmack, who informed, that many of the back Inhabitants were coming down to Winchester with their Effects, for fear of being cut off by the Indians; and that in general they were in the utmoſt Conſternation.

We hear that the General Aſſembly of this Province is to meet here the ſixth of next Month by Summons from the Governor.

Sunday laſt his Excellency Governor Tinker arrived here from Providence, in the Jamaica Snow of War, Capt Dubois.

Capt. Crathorn, from Halifax adviſes, that Captain Rous, in a 20 Gun Ship, and a Man of War Snow, were going in there from England as he came out; likewiſe the Nelly, Capt. Gibbon from this Place.

On Tueſday laſt Captain Hardy came up to Town in a Boat from the Capes, where he left his Ship, the Dennis and Esther; he was bound to London from Jamaica, but having been out nine Weeks, and afraid of his Proviſions running ſhort, touch'd for a Supply. With him came in the Mate, and ſeven of the Hands, that lately belong'd to the Brigantine Sea-Horſe, Capt. Adams, of Boſton, which Veſſel was caſt away on the Dry Tortuga Banks, the 23 of laſt Month, in her Paſſage home from the Bay of Honduras. They left the Bay the fourth of June, in Company with 13 Sail of Ships, Brigantines and Sloops, bound for London, Boſton, and New-York: Capt. Hardy took out ſome of the Logwood, and Part of the Sails, Rigging, &c. Capt. Adams went on board Capt. Gordon, bound directly to Boſton from Jamaica. Capt. Hardy, before he met with the Wreck, ſpoke with the Iſabella, Shettle, alſo for Boſton from Jamaica.

Cuſtom-Houſe, Philadelphia, Inward Entries.

Sturgis from N. Potowmack. Smith from Coracoa. Allen and Barwell from Jamaica. Sheerman and Updike from R. Iſland. Jappie from St. Chriſtophers. Simpſon from New Caſtle on Delaware. Shankland from St. Euſtatia. Brown from Rio de la Hatch. Crathorn from Halifax. Hunkins from Piſcataqua. *Outwards.* Stuart for Weſt Indies. Snow, Lownes, and Falkner for Jamaica. Gardiner for Barbados. Mulford for Cape-Fear. Hazelwood for St. Chriſtophers. Vaughan for Lisbon. M'Laughlin for Cork. *Cleared.* Townſend to Maryland. Arthur to Jamaica. Dixon to Antigua. Miller to Weſt-Indies. Mulford to Cape-Fear.

By the Honourable JAMES DELANCEY, *Eſq; His Majeſty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over the Province of* New-York, *and the Territories depending thereon in* America.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the General Aſſembly of this Province, ſtands prorogued to Teuſday the ſixth Day of *Auguſt* next. I have thought fit, with the Advice of his Majeſty's Council, further to prorogue the ſaid General Aſſembly; And I DO, by Virtue of the Power and Authority to me granted by his Majeſty, hereby further prorogue the ſaid General Aſſembly to Tueſday the Twentyeth Day of *Auguſt* next, then to meet and proceed upon Buſineſs. Of which all his Majeſty's Subjects concerned therein, are required to take Notice, and govern themſelves accordingly.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at Fort-George, *in the City of* New-York, *the* Twenty Fifth *Day of* July, *in the Year of our Lord* One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Fifty Four, *and of His Majeſty's Reign the* Twenty Eighth.

JAMES DELANCEY.

By his Honour's Command,
Gw. Banyar, Dp. Secry.

GOD Save the KING.

NEW-YORK, *July* 29.

Thurſday laſt the Reverend Mr. George Whitfield arrived here from So-Carolina: He has preached every Day ſince to large and crowded Aſſemblies. He ſets out To-morrow for Philadelphia.

The ſame Day our Promiſed Lottery began drawing, when Number 4503 drew the higheſt Prize of 1000 *l.* and yet are informed in the Property of a young Lady in this City. No 1093 drew the 500 *l.* No 1994 the 500 *l.* No 3958 the 100 *l.* and the following Numbers 963, and 2619 drew each a 100 *l.* Prize. We are told they finiſh drawing on Tueſday next. The Prize Numbers will be publiſhed in the New York Gazette this Day Week, after being firſt compared with the Books, and properly atteſted by the Managers.

The Report which has been for ſome Days in Town, ſaid to be brought from Halifax, proves groundleſs from the Notice given above by the Governor of Boſton, and the Arrival here of Capt. Jeffries from Dover.

Capt. Jeffries informs us, That about ten Days before he left Holland, a Snow of and from Rh. Iſland was caſt away a little to the Northward of the Texel; Part of the Cargo and all the Crew except the Mate were ſaved.

A Sloop from New-London, Kelly, Maſter, bound to Cork, was ſpoke with in Lat. 35 9. as was likewiſe in the ſame Latitude, a Snow from Virginia bound to Scotland; the former had been out eight Days, and the latter five, all well.

Capt. Dixon in a Schooner of this Port, may be look'd for every Day from Holland.

A Sloop from Rh. Iſland for Barbados was ſpoke with at Sea, all well.

The Election at Woodbridge in the Jerſeys, of Members of the Aſſembly, began on Monday laſt, continued three Days, and 'twas thought would hardly end the 4th: On Wedneſday Evening the Poll ſtood thus,

For Mr. Wetheril,	301
Mr. Randolph,	262
Mr. Nevil,	264
Mr. Ouke,	134

the two former join Intereſt. 'Tis thought Mr. Wetheril and Mr. Nevil will be in, tho' on oppoſite Sides.

Since our laſt two Perſons were married together in this City, whoſe Ages made upwards of One Hundred and Twenty Years, the Man being turn'd of Eighty, and the Woman of Forty: The poor old Gentleman's Infirmities rendered him unable to ſtand during the Ceremony: but it was no ſooner over than the inward Man moving, he roſe and ſaluted the Bride.

On Friday laſt died, after a ſhort Indiſpoſition, Mr. *Tunis Tiebout*, aged 92 Years.

Hendrick, one of the Mohawk Chiefs, came to Town laſt Week; but we are told upon no other Buſineſs than concerning Diſputes about the Purchaſe of Lands.

We have the following under the London *Head of* May 14.

"Upon Complaints made to the Court that the Governor of Canada had lately made Encroachments in "defiance of the Britiſh Crown's Right of Sovereignty "in the Province of Virginia, the King has charged the "Earl of Albemarle, his Ambaſſador at the French Court, "to make Repreſentations on this Subject, and to demand, that Orders be ſent to that Governor to obviate "the ſaid Cauſes of Complaint, in order to prevent "ſuch Courſes as the Inhabitants of Virginia will think "themſelves authorized to take, in caſe they don't obtain the Satisfaction and Security they have demanded."

Cuſtom-Houſe, New-York, Inward Entries,

Sloop Ranger, John Cox, and
Sloop Falmouth, Lemuel Weeks from Piſcataqua.
Sloop Abigail, John Taylor, and
Snow Hogſon, William Weſtlade from Halifax.
Sloop Fanny, Patrick Nealſon from Louiſburgh.
Sloop Deborah, Richard Wright from South-Carolina.
Schooner Relief John Seymour from Turk-Iſlands.
Snow Unity-Jennet, Robert Anderſon from N. Caſtle.

Outward Entries.

Sloop Lydia, William Filher for Boſton.
Sloop little David, John Philipſon for Barbados.
Snow Olive-Branch, Fleming Colgan, and
Ship John, Thomas Maſterton for Jamaica.

Cleared for Departure.

Sloop Maſter-Maſon, John Crew, and
Sloop Proſperity, John Rudyard to Newfoundland.
Sloop Deborah, John Theobalds, and
Snallop Two Marie's, Daniel Thorn to Virginia.
Sloop Polly, Peter Adams,
Sloop Jenny & Polly, Thomas Gelſton, and
Sloop Ranger, William Griffith to North-Carolina.
Sloop Jane, Benjamin Veſey to Bermudas.
Brig. Katey, David Bayne,
Sloop Polly, John Strange, and
Slopp Solomon,, Archibald Hamilton to Jamaica.
Sloop Carliſle, Thomas Osborne to Hamburgh *directly.*
Snow Charming Nancy, W. Thompſon to Liverpool.

TO BE SOLD,

A *New Dwelling Houſe, ſituated in the* Broad-Way, *and next Door to* John Roberts, *Eſq; Sheriff; being* 25 *Feet* 10 *Inches front, and* 50 *Feet back, is two Story and a half high, has four Fire-places, a good Kitchen, and Yard. Whoever inclines to purchaſe, may apply to* Matthew Morris, *living on the Premiſes.*

Philadelphia, July 25.

FIVE POUNDS *Reward.*

RUN away on the 6th of this inſtant, *from* Joſhua Biſphan, *executor to the eſtate of* Benjamin Biſphan *deceaſed) living in* Cheſter *township,* Burlington *county, in the province of* Weſt-New Jerſey, *a* Scotch *ſervant man, named* Thomas Leitch, *near* 40 *years of age, about* 5 *feet* 9 *inches high, freſh complexion, thin viſage, black hair, weak grey eyes, and is a carpenter and joiner by trade, ſpeaks good* Engliſh, *and has been many years in the country: Had on when he went away, an old hat, red jacket, white ſhirt, and oznabrige trowſers, but may have changed his cloathes. Whoever takes up and ſecures the ſaid ſervant, ſo as he may be had again, ſhall have the above reward, and reaſonable charges, paid by*

JOSHUA BISPHAN, *executor.*

MARGARET POWELL, *being at Mr.* Elbertſon's *in* New-Street, New-York, *hereby gives Notice that ſhe undertakes the Cure of all Rheumatic Pains, Sore Legs, and Cutaneals of the Eyes, but above all the Cankers, either in the Nose, Mouth or Throat, of ever ſo long ſtanding, or to whatever Height the Diſeaſe might have run. She has lately made a Cure of an obſtinate Canker in the City of* New-Brunſwick.

Juſt Publiſhed, *and to be ſold by* Henry De Foreeſt *in* King-Street *in* New-York; *alſo by* Lawrence Van Boskerk, *in* Hackenſack, PRICE 4*s.* 6*d.*)

DOCTOR *HECTOR MAXIUS*, Profeſſor Theologiæ, Koninglyke hoit Predikant en Conſiſtorial, Aſſeſſor in de Koninglycke Reſidence *stadt Copenhagen*, ſyne Heyllaame Onderwylinge en Heylige Betragtingen voor *Christelyke Communicanten*, voor by, en naar Het waardige Gebruyk des Hoogwaardige *Avondmaals*. Uyt het *Duyts*, in de Spraak overgeſet, Van *Iohann Melchior Magens*. *In this Book, any Perſon that underſtands the* Low-Dutch *Language, will find no Controverſy, but a Voice of Repentance, which our preſent* Chriſtian World *wants very much; for the Want thereof makes ſo many monſtrous Chriſtians. The preſent Condition we live in, requires ſuch Sort of Books eſpecially.*

TO BE SOLD, By JOHN WILLET, *in* Wall-Street,

CHOICE St. Kitts RUM, *and* Muſcovado SUGARS, *in Hogſheads and Barrels.*

For LONDON,
The Snow Charming Helena,
SAMUEL LIVINGSTON, Maſter,

Having the greateſt Part of her Lading already engaged, and will ſail by the 10*th of* September *next; For Freight or Paſſage agree with* Robert G. Livingſton, *or ſaid Maſter.*

Said Livingſton *hath juſt imported in the above Veſſel, an Aſſortment of* European *and* Eaſt-India *Goods.*

TO BE SOLD.

A German *Servant Man, with his Wife and Son, of about* Six Years old, *who are to ſerve five Years, he is as compleat a Gardner as any in America; underſtands a Flower and Kitchen Garden to Perfection: Enquire of the Printers.*

TO BE SOLD,

A *Tract of Land lying in the* Danſeamar, *about two Miles from the North River, containing One Hundred and Eighty Five Acres, is both well wooded and watered, and has a large Quantity of Low Land fit for Meadow. Any Perſon inclining to purchaſe the ſame, may apply to* Nathaniel Hazard, *or* Alexander M'Kay, *both living in* New-York.

To be Sold, very cheap, by THOMAS FORSY, at his Store in Dock Street, formerly the Store of Major *Van Horne*, and between the Dwelling Houſes of Mr *James De Peyſter*, and Mr. *Henry Cuyler*, Merchants; ſundry Sorts of Merchandize, viz.

BRoad Cloths, *Shalloons, Tammeys, Stuffs, Calipees, ſingle Allepines, Men's and Women's Stockings, Silk Crapes, Iriſh Linen, Check ditto, Tandems, Cambricks, ſtriped and clear Lawns, fine Iriſh Sheeting, Capees, black and buff coloured Thread and Purſel Breeches Patterns, Tiney Ribbons, Padeveys, and Sattin ditto; a good Aſſortment of fine Scotch Thread, fine black Sattin, Men's and Women's Gloves, Knives, Buckles, Razors, Scizars, Pins and Needles; Spectacles, Sleeve Buttons, Snuff Boxes, fine Scarf, Death Head Buttons, Hair Cloths, Waddings, Stamp Paper, Looking Glaſſes, Inkſtands, Beads, Pewter Tea Pots, Pewter Basons and Plates, Drinking Glaſſes, Dutch Tramels, Brimſtone, Lamp-Black, Bed Cords, Felt Hats, Scotch Snuff in Bottles and Bladders, and ſundry other Articles too tedious to mention.*

Alſo, ALL Perſons indebted to the ſaid Forſy, are deſired to make ſpeedy Payment to prevent Trouble: And all thoſe that have any Demands on him, are deſired to ſend in their Accounts that they may be ſettled.

For LONDON,
The Snow SEA-NYMPH,
ELIAS QUEREAU, Maſter,

Having great Part of her Lading already engaged, will certainly ſail by the 20*th of* Auguſt: *For Freight or Paſſage, agree with* John Willett, *or ſaid Maſter.*

TO BE SOLD,

NEAR 200 *Acres of Land at* Colls Neck, *in* Shrewsbury, *with a ſmall Houſe and Orchard, about* 50 *Acres clear, a good Part of it is red Wheat Land, and excellent Engliſh Graſs Meadow Ground of the ſame Colour along a Brook extraordinary well timber'd and water'd: The Roads from* Shrewsbury *and* Middletown *to* Burlington, *and from* Amboy *to* Egg-Harbour *croſſing each other by it. There is two Grift-mills, a Sawmill, and a Fulling-mill but two miles in a Mile of it, about four Miles from a Landing: It has an exceeding good Outlet; The Southward End of ſaid Tract, joins the unbroken up Place. For further Particulars and the Title, enquire of* Anne Dennis, *Widow, living near the ſaid Tract, or of* Jacob Dennis, *of* Shrewsbury.

High Water at New-York, for this Week.			
Monday, 2 m. after	5	Friday, 14 m. after	8
Tueſday, 50 m. after	5	Saturday, 2 m. after	9
Wedneſday, 38 m. after	6	Sunday, 50 m. after	9
Thurſday, 26 m. after	7	Full Moon, Auguſt 2.	

Price Current (by whole Sale) in New-York.			
Wheat, 5*s* 6*d*.		Molaſſes, 2*s*.	
Flour, 16*s*.		Sugar, 30*s*.	
Brown Bread, 16*s*.		Salt, 1*s* 6*d*.	
W. India Rum, 3*s*.		Rice, 12*s*.	
New-York, Do. 2*s* 7*d*.		Bees Wax, 45*s*.	
Chocolate 20*s*. per Doz.		Pork 70*s*.	

TO BE SOLD

A Houſe and Lot of Ground, ſituate in the Township of Bridge Waters, at Bound-Brook, bounded on Raritan River, and within 15 Rods of the Ferry; it is very convenient for a Storehouſe or Shop, for ſaid Town; and has a Stable for Horſes. Any Perſon inclining to purchaſe the ſame, may apply to JOHN ANDERSON, living on the Premiſes, or to John Anderſon, living in the City of New-York, who has a Deed of the 4 Acres of ſaid Land to ſhew. N. B. We have alſo a Lot of Land in the ſame Town, with a ſmall Cellar and a Stable for Horſes, very convenient for the Purpoſes of the above Houſe.

CHOICE old MADEIRA WINE, to be ſold by GEORGE SPENCER, in the Broad-Way, either by the Pipe, Quarter Cask, or Half Quarter Cask.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

RUDOLPHUS VAN DYCK, *has removed his Goods from the Hon. Governor Hamilton's Square, to the Store of the late Mr. Gulian Verplanck, in Wall-Street, where he continues to sell all Sorts of* EUROPEAN and INDIA GOODS, *imported in the last Vessels from* London, *at the cheapest Rate, for ready Money, or short Credit.*

N. B. *Indian Guns and small Arms fit for Military Men; the best F. F. String Gun Powder per Barrel and half Barrel, Gun Flints, West India Rum per Hogshead, &c. To be sold at the lowest Prices.*

JUST *imported from* London *and* Bristol, *and to be sold cheap, by* WILLIAM CHESLYN, *at his Store opposite the* Meal-Market, *and next Door to the* Merchants-Coffee-House: *A large Assortment of Iron-Monger's Goods, Cutlery and Saddlery; also Scythes, Paint, Wool Cards &c.*

Just imported in the Snow *Irene*, Capt. *Garrison* and Snow *Hall Merchant*, Capt. *Griffiths* from *London*, and the Ship *Grace*, Capt. *Neal* from *Bristol*, and to be sold cheap for Cash or short Credit, by HENRY VAN VLECK, opposite to the Hon. *James Alexander's*, Esq. in *Broad-Street*,

A FRESH *Assortment of* EUROPEAN *and* INDIA GOODS.

JOHN FELL, *removed from* Hanover-Square, *opposite Capt.* John Waddell's, *in* King Street, *has imported in the Ship* Grace *from* Bristol, *and in the* Charming Helena *Capt.* Livingston *from* London; *long, middling and short Scythes, Wool Cards, and English Sail Cloth; likewise a large Assortment of* European *and* East India Goods, *which he will sell at the lowest Prices, for ready Money or short Credit.*

NAPHTALY HART MYERS, *being returned from* London, *in the* Snow Charming Helena, *Capt.* Livingston, *has brought with him, a great Variety of* European Indias, *and* China Goods, *which he proposes to sell for ready Money or short Credit, at almost the* London *Prices, at his Store, in the House of the late Capt.* Burges, *in Princes Street.*

TO BE SOLD,

By ROBERT POYLE, Pewterer, at the Sign of the *Dish*, in *Dock Street*, near the *Old-Slip-Market*, in New-York, Wholesale or Retail at the most reasonable Rates.

ALL *Sorts of Pewter-ware, and makes Worms for Stills of all Sizes, by a compleat Way at the lowest Price. Likewise, makes Hogshead, Barrell, or Bottle Cranes, either with or without Cocks, and makes the Intrim-Pots, so much approv'd of, to Colds, and any* common *Thing in Pewter, in any Shape or Form as shall be order'd; likewise does all sorts Lead-work, either House or Shipwork.*

Just imported from London, *and to be Sold by* PATRICK CARRYL, *at the Sign of the* Unicorn *and* Mortar *in* Hanover Square.

A Fresh Supply of the Sett of Medicines; together with Turlington's balsam of Life, Bateman's Drops, Lockyer's Pills, Hooper and Anderson's Pills, British Oil, Daffey's Elixer, Anodyne Necklace, Pocket Instruments, best *London* Lancets, Tooth Drawers, and Oil of Turpentine, at the lowest Price. *Also*, Dr. FRAUNCES'S Female Strengthening Elixer.

LOTT and LOW

HAVING *just imported in the Ship Maria*, Capt. Miller, *and Snow Hall Merchant*, Capt. Griffiths, *from* London, *A great Assortment of* East-India *and* East-India *Goods proper for the Season, and are to be disposed of on the cheapest Terms, at their Store in the House where Mr. Henry Clopper, Saddler, lately lived, opposite Mr. Joseph Read's, facing the Meal Market.*

JAMES HALLET, *living at the Sign of the Sterling Chair, between* Spring Garden *and* Oswego Market, *and opposite to* Batton-Street; *Doth make and mend all Sorts of Wheels, Carriages, and Boxes, such as Coach, Chariot, Chaise, Chair, Kattereen, with Sargent and Carte, Sledges, and Wheel-Barrows, with all Expedition, and at the most reasonable Rates.* t.b.c. 12m.

TO BE SOLD,

A *Well built six Oared Boat, five Years old, with good Sails and Rigging, a very good Anchor and Cable, and every Thing necessary, all in good Order now for Use: Enquire of* William Keese *of* Flushing *in* Long Island, *who will dispose of her at a very reasonable Rate; or of* John Franklin *in* New York, *near* Burling's Slip. WILLIAM KEESE.

STOLEN *a few Days ago, out of a Boat lying in the* Great Dock, *a Pillow Case with the following Things in it viz. One Piece of Calico, one other Piece of black Crape of Twelve Yards, the two first Volumes of* Atterbury's *Sermons, and some other Things. A Coat of mine, with this Name* ------ Cook, *is paid to the Books. Whoever recovers the Pillow Case, with the Contents, and Evidence to Justice the Thief or Thieves, shall have* THREE POUNDS *Reward. Enquire at the Printing Office.*

TO BE SOLD,

IMPORTED *in the last London Ships by* JUDAH HAYS *at his Store, at the late Dwelling-House of Major* Van Horne, *All Sorts of European Goods fit for the Season: Also Coffee, West-India Rum, Brasil Muscovado Sugar, extraor good Walnut Chairs, with red Leather Seats. There is also two good Houses to Let, furnish'd or unfurnish'd: Enquire at the above Place.*

NEWTON *and* CAMERON *are removed to* Coenties Market *next Door to Henry Holland's, and have just imported a* Fresh Assortment of European and India GOODS.

For NEWBERN, *in* North-Carolina,

The Roop Charming SALLY,

BENJAMIN DAVIS *Master, having good Accommodations for Passengers, and most of her Cargo ready, will sail with all convenient speed.*

For Freight or Passage, agree with S. Hainsworth, or said Master.

IF SAMUEL WILLCOX, *Son of the Rev. Mr.* Willcox *of* London, *be alive, in any Part of* America, *he is desired to give Intelligence thereof, to either Capt.* William Bryant, *in* New-York, *or the Printers hereof; he may thereby hear of something to his Advantage.*

JUST *imported in the* Hull-Merchant, *Capt.* Griffiths, *and the* Charming-Helena, *Capt.* Livingston, *from* London, *the* Grace, *Capt.* Neallson *from* Bristol. *A good Assortment of* GOODS *suitable for the Season: Also in the* Nancy, *Capt.* Thompson *from* Liverpool. *Variety of Earthen-Ware, Cheshire Cheese, and some likely* English *Servant Girls, to be sold cheap, by* ASPINWALL *and* DOUGHTY, *at their Store next Door to the Treasurer's.*

TO be sold by COLDEN and KELLY, at their Store near *Coenties* Market,

CHOICE good West-India Rum, and Molasses by the Hogshead, Muscovado Sugar by the Hogshead and Barrel; Tea, Coffee, Chocolate, Pepper, Allspice, Copperas, Allum, Brimstone, Logwood, Redwood, French Indigo, Earthen Ware in Crates, ---Virginia Tobacco, which may be cleared Duty free; good Rhubarb at 48*s.* per *lb.* the genuine *Turlington's* Balsam of Life, a Parcel of the best Rappee, Scotch and Plain Snuff, long and short Shingles, Tar, Deck Planck, ------ Pine Boards, Firkin Butter, a small Parcel of dry Goods, among which are a Parcel of Silk Brocades, Iron Mongery and Cutlery, Scotch Coal, and Whiting fit for Painters, and used to clean Silver and Brass.

¶.¶. William Kelly *is removed from the House he formerly lived in, at the* Old-Slip, *to a new House on the West-Side of* Coenties *Dock, opposite the Long-Pier.*

TO BE SOLD,

A *New Boat of about three Years old, well founded, will carry about nine Cord of wood, with all her Tackle and Apparel, as she now lays in the* Great Dock, *opposite Mrs. Moore's. Any Person inclining to purchase, may apply to either* Henry *or* John Cregier, *and know further.*

EDMUND BANTON, Sawyer, from *Liverpool*, HAVING *lately set up his Business at the House of Mr.* Roosevelt, *near the North-River, in this City, takes this Opportunity to acquaint all Cabinet-Makers, Joiners, and Carpenters, that will favour him with any Thing in his way, that they may depend on having their Work done in the best Manner, with all due Care and Expedition; having every Conveniency for carrying on that Business, and a good House for keeping Timber from the Weather. Due Attendance will be given by him at his Shop-Pitt at the Place above mentioned.*

N. B. *If he meets with any Encouragement from the several Tradesmen above mentioned, he purposes to stay in this Place, otherwise he must be obliged to remove for better Employ.*

THIS IS TO INFORM THE PUBLICK,

THAT DANIEL O'BRIEN, *being provided with two good Boats, exceeding well fitted, with very good Accommodations for Passengers, intends to give his Attendance at the* White-Hall Slip, *in* New York, *every* Wednesday *and* Saturday; *and, Wind and Weather permitting, on every* Monday *and* Thursday *will proceed to* Amboy Ferry, *at which Place the* Burlington *and* Bordentown *Stage Waggons shall meet, every* Monday *and* Thursday, *and on* Tuesdays *and* Fridays *proceed to their respective Stages at* Bordentown *and* Burlington; *and at each of those Places a Boat is ready to carry Goods and Passengers directly to* Philadelphia, *and the same Conduct is to be observed from* Philadelphia *to* New-York. *As he hath two Boats to attend with, he hopes to perform his Stages so as to occasion no Delay to Passengers or Goods; and if any Thing extraordinary should offer, he is thereby enabled to proceed with the greatest Dispatch: And whatever he shall transport from* New-York *to* Amboy Ferry *aforesaid, may be sent either to* Bordentown *or* Burlington, *as shall be directed: And he promises that due Care shall be taken of every Thing committed to his Charge, whether Letters, Goods, &c. He may be spoke with on board one of his Boats, or at the House of* Scotch Johnney, *at the said* White Hall Slip. DANIEL O'BRIEN.

BROKE *out of* Somerset *Goal, the* 20th *of* May *last, two Prisoners who were committed on Suspicion of Felony, one of them named* Enoch Hannawell, 23 *Years of Age, 5 Foot 8 Inches high, has a young-like Look: Had on when he went away, a blue-grey homespun Coat, Waistcoat and Breeches, Stockings almost the same Colour, and a Linnen Cap; he was born at* Westchester, *in* New-York *Government. The other about 30 Years of Age, 5 Foot 7 Inches high, thick set, with black Hair and Beard, thick Legs, sour Look, named* John Murphey: *Had on when he went away, a light colour'd Kersey Jacket, no Coat, old bluish mix'd Stockings, old Shoes. Whoever secures the above mentioned Persons, and brings them to the Sheriff of* Somerset, *or secures them, so that he may have them again, shall have* Forty Shillings *Reward for each of them, and all reasonable Charges, paid by*

ABRAHAM VANDORN, *Sheriff.*

Imported, from *London*, and to be sold by DAVID CLARKON, at his Store near the *Whitehall* Slip.

A *Choice Parcel of of Bohea Tea, by the Chest or smaller Quantity. A Variety of Ladies Mechlin and Ruffel Cap Lace, Lappits and Cuts, Dresden Aprons and Handkerchiefs, Men and Women's Dresden Ruffles. Said Tea will be sold at* 50 per Cent. *Exchange upon the prime Cost.*

S. HAINSWORTH, *is removed to the House of Mr. Brahm Lewis, where Mr. James Thompson, Mercchant, lately lived, next Door to the Treasurer's, where Broad-Cloths, Shalloons, Irish Linnens, and sundry* European GOODS *are sold as usual. N.B. A large Quantity of useful Pewter. And, ready Money given for all sorts of Furrs, Buck-Horns, green and yellow Wax, &c.*

THIS *is to give Notice, that the* Co-partnership between SANKEY HAINSWORTH and ROBERT HAMILTON, Merchants in the City of New-York, *was dissolved, made void, and of no Effect, the* 26th Day of *January*, 1754: *And all Persons that have any Accounts, Bills, Notes or Demands against the said Co-partnership, are desired to apply to S. Hainsworth, in order to have them settled and discharged.*

To be Sold by the Subscriber living in *New-York*,

SEVERAL *Tracts or Parcels of Land in the* Great Patent, *containing in Quantity between Fifty and Sixty Thousand Acres, it being esteem'd as good for Hemp, Grain, and Pasturage, and as well timber'd and water'd, as any Part of the said Patent, none excepted. The Whole or Part will be disposed of, on very reasonable Termes, it not being subject to any Quit-Rent. By applying to said Subscriber, the particular Premisses and Conditions may be known.*

t.b.c. 3m. JOHN KINGSTON.

TO BE SOLD,

A *Tract of Land situate in* Shrewsbury, *in* Monmouth *County*, New-Jersey, *call'd and known by the Name of the* Fall Neck, *containing about* 450 *Acres of Land, about* 70 *of which may be made excellent* English *Meadow, the Tides being chiefly bank'd out; there is on the Premisses a good Dwelling House and some Out-Houses, and about* 120 *Acres of cleared Land, the whole good Wheat Land, well timber'd and water'd, with a good Landing-Place at the Door. For Price and Terms of Payment, agree with* James Alexander, *Esq. at* New-York, Lewis Morris, *at* Morrisania, Philip Van Horne *at* Boundbrook, *or* Richard Salter *near* Trenton.

TEN *Acres of good Land, situated, lying and being in* Middlesex *County, in the Province of* East-New-Jersey, *on the South Side of the Road that leads from* Brunswick *to* Trenton, *the same belonging formerly to* John Fountaine, *and is very convenient for any Tradesman or Shop-keeper. For further Particulars, enquire of* Aaron Louzada, *at* Bound Brook, *who will dispose of the same on reasonable Terms.*

Just publilhed,

Price 1 *s.* stitch'd

And are to be sold by *Godfried Muller*, Reader in the *Lutheran Church* in *New-York*, Mr. *Schleydorn* in *Philadelphia*: *And by the Printers hereof* in Beaver-Street:

Number V. containing Four Sermons, *of*

THE ARTICLES *of* FAITH, *of the* Holy Evangelical Church, *according to the* Word *of* God, *and the* Augsbourg Confession. *Set forth in* FORTY SERMONS. *By Magist.* PETRUS ZACHARIÆ NAKSKOW, *Propositus, and Minister of the Gospel in* Jutland, *in* Denmark, *Translated from the Original into English, by* JOCHUM MELCHIOR MAGENS. *To be continued every Month till the whole are finish'd.*

SCHEME OF A LOTTERY,

In Connecticut: For the Benefit of the College of *New-Jersey*.

THE said Lottery will consist of 3333 Tickets, of which 3033 are to be fortunate, viz.

1	of	*l.* 501,	is	*l.* 501,
2	of	250,	are	500,
4	of	125,	are	500,
8	of	100;	are	800,
16	of	50,	are	800,
30	of	20,	are	600,
50	of	10,	are	500,
100	of	5,	are	500,
2877	of	3,	are	8631,

3033 Prizes, 3333 Tickets, at 30 *s.* New-York Currency each, is *l.* 13332,
5300 Blanks.

Fifteen per Cent. to be deducted from the Prizes. There is not quite two Blanks to a Prize. Publick Notice will be given of the precise Time of putting the Tickets into the Boxes, that such Adventurers as are inclined, may be present when the same shall be done. The Drawing will *certainly* commence on the 2d Day of *September* next, or sooner if full, at the Town of *Stamford* in *Connecticut*, under the Inspection of two Justices of Peace of the Colony of *Connecticut*, and of two Persons who shall be appointed by the Trustees of the College of *New-Jersey*. The Publick will have Fourteen Days Notice of the Time of Drawing. The Managers are sworn to the faithful Discharge of the Trust reposed in them, and also given Security for the same. The Prizes will be published in the *New York Gazette*, and the Money paid to the Possessors of Benefit Tickets, as soon as the Drawing is finished. Tickets are to be had at the Dwelling-Houses of Mr. *John Lloyd*, *Ephraim Bostwick*, Esq; and Dr. *Nathaniel Hubbard*, in the Town of *Stamford*, in *Connecticut*, who are appointed Managers. Tickets will also be sold by Mr. *David Vanborne*, Mr. *Daniel Defor*, and Mr. *Noel*, in *New-York*; the Honourable *James Hude*, Esq; and *William Oake*, Esq; and Mr. *Derick Van Veighten*, at *New-Brunswick*. *Samuel Woodruff*, Esq; in *Elizabeth-Town*, ----Mr. *Sergeant*, Treasurer of the College of *New-Jersey*, in *Newark*, ---the Rev. Mr. *Cowell*, in *Trenton*, ---and Mr. *Samuel Hazard*, in *Philadelphia*. The Prizes will be paid by those Gentlemen who shall have disposed of the Numbers drawing such Prizes.

NEW-YORK: Printed by J. PARKER, and W. WEYMAN, at the New Printing Office, in Beaver-Street:
Where ADVERTISEMENTS are taken in, and all Persons may be supply'd with this Paper.

this Board not thinking
the Matter to Arbitration, but being
either Concession in order to preserve the peace
Bloodshed among the Borderers, are of Opinion
should be proposed finally on the part of this Govern
that the Line be settled in the following manner Viz.

That Westerhook River should be the bo
or Line between the two Governments from the north Line o
Connecticut as far as the place where the North line of
Patent of Westerhook crosses that River being about eight
Miles, that from that place or point on the said River a line
should be run Northerly so as to leave Fort Massachusets
one hundred yards Eastward of such Line.

At a Council held at Fort George in the
City of New York the 25 day of July 1754.

Present

The Honble James De Lancey Esq Lieut Governor &c.

Mr Alexander	Mr Holland
Mr Kennedy	Mr Chambers
Mr Murray	Mr Smith

His Honour communicated to the Board a copy of the proceedings of the Commissaries from the several Governments at the late Congress held at Albany which were read.

Proceedings of the Commissrs at the Congress at Albany read.

The Petition of several of the owners & proprietors of the Lands of Hanesinck and Hanygaard, some of them chosen Trustees to act for and on the behalf of the rest of the proprietors in order to [illegible] the Lands & settling the Line between New York and New Jersey was presented to the Board and read Setting forth sundry matters relating to the Encroachments of the people of New Jersey on Lands within and under the Jurisdiction of this Province, and the extending the Jurisdiction of that Government over this Province as far Northward as the pretended Line of 1719 reserving several Islands in & across the Lands in question and praying that Commissrs for that purpose may be appointed to join & Commissrs on the part of this Government & that they may be impowered to settle & adjust the Boundaries with the Concurrence of the Petitioners as circumstances may require.

Petition & Papers of the Patentees of Hanesinck & Hanygaard relative to the Encroachments of the People of New Jersey.

Ordered that the said Petition & Papers be referred to the same Committee who made Report on the 8th of March last relating to the said Controverted Line and that they do consider of the Lines and Affidavits referred to & report their Opinion

Referred to Committee.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday the Sixth of August 1754.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, William Logan, Benjamin Shoemaker, Richard Peters ..... Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Assembly being to meet this Day in Vertue of the Governors Writs, his Honour laid before the Council, the Proceedings of the Congress held at Albany by the Honourable James De Lancey Esquire, Lieutenant Governar and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York, and the Commissioners of the several Provinces met in the said City of Albany the Nineteenth Day of June 1754, together with a Letter given to the Commissioners at Albany by the Commissioners of Indian Affairs there, a Letter from Andrew Montour, likewise Three Petitions, One from the Inhabitants of Cumberland County, Another from the Inhabitants of Donegal and the Other from the Inhabitants of Peextang, Derry and Hanover, which were read and ordered to be entered. The Comrs of Pensilvania having held a private Treaty with the Six Nations whilst at Albany for the Purchase of Lands their Report to the Governor was likewise read and ordered to be entered.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Wednesday the Nineteenth Day of June 1754. A.M.

Present

The Honourable Lieutenant Governar of New York.

Joseph Murray, William Johnson, John Chambers, William Smith, Esquires of his Majesties Council of this Province.

Theodore Atkinson, Richard Wybird, Meshec Weare, Henry Sherburne Esqrs. Esquires Commrs for his Majesties Province of New Hampshire.

Samuel Wells, John Chandler, Oliver Partridge, John Worthington, Esquires Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.

William Pitkin, Roger Woolcot, Elisha Williams, Esquires Commissioners for the Colony of Connecticut.

Stephen Hopkins, Martin Howard Jr Esquires Commissioners for the Colony of Rhode Island.

John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, Benja. Franklin, Esquires Commissioners for the Governmt. of Pensilvania.

Benjamin Tasker, abraham Barnes, Esqrs Comrs for the Govt. of Maryland.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York, having yesterday directed Mr. Banyar Deputy Secretary of the said Province, to wait upon the Commissioners of the several Provinces abovenamed, to acquaint them that his Honour desired they would meet him in Council, in the City Hall of Albany this Morning, in order to produce their Powers and proceed upon Business.

The said Commissioners being now accordingly met, took their Seats, and produced their respective Commissions, which were read.

His Honour then produced a Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, bearing Date the Eighteenth Day of September last, out of which a Paragraph was read.

Afterwards were read Two Minutes of the Proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian affairs in this City, dated the Fifteenth and Eighteenth Instant. Also a Remonstrance from the Oswego Traders to his Honour.

It

Pennsylvania. 1754.

It was recommended as the first Step necessary to be taken at this Congress, that the .... Commissioners should consider of the several Matters they may judge proper to be proposed to the Indians, at the intended Interview with them, and to prepare the Speech to be made on that Occasion; for which Purpose his Honour acquainted the Commissioners, he would direct the Secretary or Agent for Indian Affairs, to attend them with the Records of that office; and the Commissioners of Indian affairs to meet together as often as there should be occasion, in order that they might give them all the Information relative to Indian Affairs.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Wednesday afternoon, the Nineteenth Day of June 1754.

Present

The Council of New York, and all the Commissioners } as particularly named in the Minutes of this Morning.

The Board proceeded to take into Consideration, the Matters recommended by his .. Honour in the Morning. The whole Letter from the Lords of Trade was read, and is as follows, viz.t

Whitehall Septr 18th 1753.

Sir,

A few Days after You sailed from Portsmouth, We received a Letter from Mr Clinton, enclosing Minutes of the Proceedings between him and a Deputation of the Mohawk Indians at Fort George in the City of New York, in June last, with the Journals of the Assembly then sitting.

You will without Doubt upon your Arrival be fully informed of the particular Circumstances of this Affair, the Resentment expressed by the Indians, and the abrupt and hasty manner in which they went away; and tho' from the Confidence We have of your vigilant Attention to whatever may concern your Government, we are persuaded You will not have failed to have taken every necessary and prudent Measure to obviate the fatal Consequences which might attend this Affair; yet we think it no less our Duty to embrace the first Opportunity of writing our Sentiments to You upon it, and of pointing out to You what appears to Us necessary to be done.

When We consider of how great Consequence the Friendship and Alliance of the Six Nations is to all his Majesties Colonies and Plantations in America in general as well as to New York in .... particular; when We consider that this Friendship and Alliance is only to be gained and preserved by making Presents to them at proper times and upon proper Occasions, and by an inviolable Observance of all our Engagements with them; and when we recollect the Attempts which have lately been made to withdraw them from the British Interest, we cannot but be greatly concerned and surprised, that the Province of New York should have been so inattentive to the general Interest of his Majesties Subjects in America, as well as to their own particular Security, as to have given Occasion to the .. Complaints made by the Indians; but We are still more surprised at the Manner in which these Complaints were received, the dissatisfactory Answers given to the Indians and at their being suffered to depart (tho the Assembly was then sitting) without any Measures taken to bring them to Temper, or to redress their Complaints.

This being the Light in which We see this Affair, We think it for his Majesties Service, that You should take the very first Opportunity of representing to the Council and Assembly, in the strongest manner of how great Importance it is to the Province of New York to preserve the Friendship and Affections of the Indians, and the fatal Consequences which must inevitably follow from a Neglect of them, that You should press them to join with and support You in every Measure You shall find it necessary to pursue, in order to fix them in the British Interest, more especially by making proper Provision for Presents for them; which joined to the Presents allowed by his Majesty, and which You will receive by this Conveyance, may serve to facilitate this great End, and to wipe away all Remembrance of that Neglect the Indians now complain of. As a speedy Interview with

the

the Indians is from their present Disposition become the more necessary, You will no doubt think it proper to advise with the Council as to the Time and Place of Meeting the Indians, in which Points We trust You will have a due Regard to their Convenience. And as it appears from their Complaints, that Albany which has been the usual Place of Meeting is obnoxious to them, You will, if You find sufficient Foundation for this Complaint, appoint some other Place You shall think more for their Ease and Satisfaction. And We observe from a Report of the Council and Assembly to Mr Clinton, that Onondago is proposed as the most proper Place. We likewise hope that in the Choice of the Persons who are to attend and assist You at this Interview, You will have a Regard to such as are best acquainted with the Indians and their Affairs, and not obnoxious to them. And as a great deal depends upon the Interpreters, We desire You will be particularly careful to appoint such as are well acquainted with the Indian Language, and Men of Ability and Integrity.

We hope that the Threats of the Mohawk Indians, when they left New York, have not been carried into Execution; but think it of absolute Necessity, in order to obviate any ill Consequences ..... which might attend these Threats, that some Person of Character and Discretion should be immediately sent among the Indians to acquaint them of your Arrival, of the Presents his Majesty has ordered to be delivered to them, and of your Intention of holding an Interview with them, for burying the Hatchet and renewing the Covenant Chain; that this Person should be carefully instructed to endeavour to remove any Prejudices, which the Six Nations may have imbibed from the Representations of the Mohawks, to obviate the ill Effects which would attend a general ..... Discontent amongst them, at so critical a Conjuncture, and to put them upon their Guard against any Attempts which may be made to withdraw them from his Majesties Interest; and that nothing may be wanting to convince the Indians of the Sincerity of our Intentions, You will do well to examine into the Complaints they have made of being defrauded of their Lands, to take all proper and legal Methods to redress their Complaints, and to gratify them by reasonable ..... Purchases, or in such other Matter as You shall find most proper and agreeable to them, for such Lands as have been unwarrantably taken from them; or for such other as they may have a Desire to dispose of; and We recommend it to You to be particularly careful for the future, that You do not make Grants to any Persons whatsoever of Lands purchased by them of the Indians upon their own Accounts: such Practices have been found in a neighbouring Government to be attended with great Mischief and Inconvenience. But when the Indians are disposed to sell any of their Lands, the Purchase ought to be made in his Majesties Name, and at the Publick Charge.

As We find it has been usual upon former Occasions, when an Interview has been held with the Indians, for the other neighbouring Governments in Alliance with them, to send Commissioners to be joined with those of New York; and as the present wavering Disposition of the Indians, equally affects the other Provinces, We have wrote to the Governors of Virginia; ..... Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay and New Jersey, desiring ... them to represent to their respective Assemblies the Utility and Necessity of this Measure, and to urge them to make proper Provision for it; and therefore it will be necessary, that when You have settled the Time and Place of Meeting, You should give them early Notice of it; and this ... leads Us to recommend one thing more to your Attention, and that is, to take Care that all the ..... Provinces be (if practicable) comprized in one general Treaty, to be made in his Majesties Name, it appearing to Us, that the Practice of each Province making a separate Treaty for itself, in its own Name, is very improper, and may be attended with great Inconvenience to his Majesties Service. So We bid You heartily farewell, and are your very loving Friends, and

humble Servants

Dcunk. Halifax
T. Greenville
Dapplin

To Sir Danvers Osborn
Governor of New York.

Albany June 1754.

A true Copy of the Original
Exd. by Geo. Banyar. D Sy.

And

Pennsylvania. 1754.

And also were read the following Papers from the Commissioners of Indian affairs at Albany viz.t

Albany 15th June 1754.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs at Mr. Lutridge's.
Present

Col. Mlyndt. Schuyler.
Robert Saunders Esquire mayor of the City.
Sybt. Van Shaak Esquire Recorder.
Capt. Hubert. Marshal; Commander of the Fort.

Cornelius Cuyler
John Beekman
John Ransleaer
Jacob Coents Sen.r Esquires
Peter Winne

Peter Wraxall. Secy.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor the Honourable James Delancey Esquire having directed Col. Mlndt. Schuyler to convene the Commissioners of Indian affairs, that they might consult together if they had any Matters in particular to recommend to his Honour upon the approaching Interview with the Six Nations.

In consequence hereof the Commissioners are of Opinion, that the Six Nations who now live dispersed and confused should in the most earnest Manner be exhorted to unite and dwell together in their respective Castles, and that the Mohock Nation should live in one Castle only.

That his Honour apply to the Onondago Indians in particular, to direct and exhort them to live together in one Castle according to their antient and prudent Custom, and to cause all their Friends and Relations where ever dispersed to join them, particularly those who have separated themselves and live at present at Swagasie, on the South Side of the River Saint Laurence to the Eastward of Cadaraqui, where the French have lately fortified, have a Garrison, and where a French Missionary constantly resides, in order to draw them off from our Alliance. At this Swagasie the French lately made a Settlement of Indians belonging to the Six Nations, of which the greatest Part are from Onondago and Cayuga.

That whereas the French have long been endeavouring to prevail on the Senecas to come and settle at Irondequat, in order to have them nearer to their Settlements, the more easy to effect their Design of debauching them from the British Interest. The Commissioners are of Opinion, that his Honour should insist on the Senecas, who at present live very remote from one another, to make a general Castle near the Mouth of the Senecas River, where they have already begun to build a new Castle. This Point has been several Times recommended to them by former Governors, and which they have faithfully promised to do, but have not hitherto effected.

The Commissioners are of Opinion, that the most effectual Method to retain and secure the Six Nations to the British Interest will be to build Two Forts, One in the Onondago, the other in the Seneca Country, and that each Fort be supplied with a proper Missionary. They are further of Opinion, that the carrying and selling Rum in the Castles of the Six Nations is of the most pernicious Consequence to the publick Interest of this Colony in particular and to the British Interest in general with respect to our Indian Connections.

The Commissioners are also of Opinion, that no French Man upon any Pretence whatever should be suffered to reside or trade amongst the Six Nations, and that the said Six Nations should be directed to send those French Men away who now trade or reside amongst them, and to warn them not to return. Those French Emissaries having always been of fatal Consequence to the British Interest amongst the Six Nations.

A true Copy from the Records of Indian affairs.

Peter Wraxall, Secy.

Albany

Albany 18th June 1754.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs at the House of Robert Luttridge.

Present

Peter Winne
Sylvant Vanschaak Recorder
Myndt. Schuyler
John Beekman
Jacob Coent. Ten Eyck
} Esquires.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having sent to Col. Myndt. Schuyler to know what he should do with Regard to the River Indians at the approaching Interview. Col. Schuyler thought proper to convene the Commissioners that they might answer his Honour upon this Point.

They are of Opinion that after the Six Nations arrive in Town, it will be Time enough to send a Message to the said River Indians.

Whereas divers Complaints have been made to the Commissioners of Indian affairs that the Indians at Chonjohare Castle do forcibly take Rum from the Oswego Traders in their Passage by the said Castle — and also that the Oneido Indians oblige the Traders to let them carry their Goods over the Carrying Place; and to pay them double; and sometimes more than double the customary Price which the Germans are ready and willing to take, it is the Opinion therefore of this Board, that his Honour be pleased at the approaching Interview to represent the Injustice of these ..... Proceedings to the Six Nations, and that it is a Breach of their Promises so solemnly made and a Violation of their Engagements entered into and frequently renewed with former Governors.

A true Copy from the Records of Indian affairs.

Peter Wraxall Secy.

A Remonstrance was then read to the Board from the Oswego Traders to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York of which the following is a Copy.

To His Honour James Delancey Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York &c.

We the Traders (or Handlers) to Oswego most humbly beg Leave to remonstrate to your Honour the many Hazards and Difficulties We are subject to in Our Passage thither, from the ill Treatment We meet with from the Indians (ie) in passing the Mohocks and Chonajohare Castles, they board our Battoes with axes, Knives &c. and by Force take what Rum they think proper, Whooping and yelping as if they gloried in their Depredations, and threatning Murder to any that oppose them, and on our arrival at the great Carrying Place, the Oneido Indians force our Goods from Us at Pleasure to carry over, and not content with making Us pay a most exorbitant Price for each Freight but rob Us of our Rum, Stores, and other Goods, with a great deal of invective threatning Language, and are generally so numerous that We are obliged to submit to those Impositions, or run the Risque of being murdered and robbed of everything We have, and to put their Schemes the better in Execution, they force away the High Germans, who generally attend with their Horses, ... that We may be under a necessity of employing them, and paying whatsoever they please to demand;

We therefore humbly pray your Honour to take these our most severe Grievances under due Consideration, and fall upon such Methods to redress them, as to You in your great Wisdom shall seem most expedient.

Accept of our most fervent Prayers for your Welfare and Prosperity, as We ever remain with all due Deference, Gratitude and Esteem Sir

Oswego June 1st 1754. Your Honours most dutiful and most humble Servants

To which Forty Seven several Names were signed.

The

Pennsylvania. 1754.

The following Gentlemen were appointed a Committee to prepare the Draught of a.... general Speech to be made by his Honour to the Indians, viz.t

William Johnson
Sam.l Wells
Theodore Atkinson
Elisha Williams
Martin Howard Junr.
Isaac Norris
Benj.a Tasker Junr.

} Esquires
To whom were delivered the aforesaid Papers.

Adjourned till to. Morrow. Morning.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany on Thursday 20th June 1754. A.M.

Present

His Honour, and the aforesaid Council of New York, and several of the Commissioners.

The Committee appointed Yesterday to prepare a Draught of a general Speech to be made to the Indians not being ready to make their Report, adjourned till to Morrow Morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany on Friday 21st June 1754.. A. M.

Present

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Council of New York aforesaid, all the Commissioners and Thomas Hutchinson Esquire one of the Commissioners of Massachusets Bay.

It was proposed by the Governor that to avoid all Disputes about the Precedency of the Colonies they should be named in the Minutes according to their Situation from North to South, which was agreed to.

Peter Fraxall Esquire was chosen Secretary to this Board.

The Committee delivered in their Draught of the general Speech, which was read thro: and afterwards Paragraph by Paragraph.

Objections were made to some Parts, the Board not coming to any Conclusion in the same, they adjourned till to Morrow Morning.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany Saturday 22.d June 1754. A.M.

Present

The Council of New York aforesaid, and all the Commissioners except John Chandler Esq.r one of the Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.

The Consideration of the Draught of the general Speech was resumed, and one being agreed upon, Mr.r Hutchinson and Mr.r Peters were desired to wait upon the Lieutenant Governor with the same.

Adjourned till Monday Morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Monday 24th June 1754. A. M.

Present

The Council of New York aforesaid and all the Commissioners.

A Motion was made that the Thanks of this Board be given to the Reverend Mr.r Peters,

One

One of the Commissioners for Pennsylvania for his Sermon preached yesterday, and that he be desired to suffer the same to be printed which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters were desired to wait upon his Honour to request him to administer an Oath to Mr. Wraxall for the due and faithful Discharge of his office of Secretary to this Board.

Adjourned to 3 o' Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting as aforesaid in the afternoon the 24th June 1754.

Present

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor and the Council aforesaid of the Province of New York and all the Commissioners.

Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters reported to the Board, that Mr. Wraxall had been sworn into his office by his Honour conformable to their Desire in the morning.

A Motion was made that the Commissioners deliver their Opinion, whether an Union of all the Colonies is not at present absolutely necessary for their Security and Defence.

The Question was accordingly put, and it passd in the affirmative unanimously.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor made a Proposal, as a Branch of Indian affairs under the Consideration of this Board, to build Two Forts in the Indian Country, to protect them, their Wives and Children, as the best Expedient to secure their Fidelity to his Majesty.

Which Proposal the Board determined to proceed upon, after they had considered some Method of effecting the Union between the Colonies.

On a Motion that a Committee be appointed to prepare and receive Plans, or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies, and to digest them into one general Plan for the Inspection of this Board.

Resolved that Each Government chuse One of their own Number to be of that Committee.

Accordingly were appointed

Thomas Hutchinson Esquire for Massachusets Bay.
Theodore Atkinson Esquire for New Hampshire.
William Pitkin Esquire for Connecticut.
Stephen Hopkins Esquire for Rhode Island.
Benjamin Franklin Esquire for Pennsylvania.
Benjamin Tasker Esquire for Maryland

It was left to his Honour to appoint One of his Majesties Council for the Government of New York, and he named William Smith Esquire.

Adjourned till to morrow morning at eleven o' Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House in Albany on Tuesday the 25th June 1754. A. M.

Present

Joseph Murray	Esquires of	Samuel Wells	Esquires	Richard Wybert	Esquires Com-
William Johnson	the Council	John Chandler	Commissrs.	Meshech Weare	missioners for
John Chambers	of New York.	Oliver Partridge	for Massa-	Henry Sherborne Jun.r	New Hampshire
Roger Wolcot	Esquires Commiss.rs	John Worthington	chusets Bay.		
Elisha Williams	for Connecticut. —	Martin Howard Junr. Esquire a Commissioner for Rhode Island.			

John Penn & Isaac Norris Esquires Commissioners for Pennsylvania.
Abraham Barnes Esquire a Commissioner for Maryland.

The Draught of the general Speech not being returned to the Board from his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York — Adjourned to 5 o' Clock this afternoon.

Pennsylvania. 1754.

At a Meeting as aforesaid Tuesday the 25th June 1754 P. M.
Present
All the Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

Mr. Murray delivered to the Board for their Approbation, his Honours Alterations and Additions to the Draught of the Speech presented to his Honour by Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Peters the twenty second Instant, which were read to the Board by the Secretary, and the further Consideration thereof was deferred till to morrow morning.

Adjourned till Eleven o' Clock to morrow morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Wednesday 26th June 1754. A. M.
Present:

William Johnson, John Chambers — Esquires of the Council of New York.
William Pitkin, Roger Wolcot, Elisha Williams — Esquires Commissioners for Connecticut.
Samuel Wells, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson & Oliver Partridge — Esquires Commissioners for Massachusetts Bay.
Martin Howard Junr. Esquire a Commr. for Rhode Island.

The Draught of the general Speech to the Six Nations was further debated, but not being fully concluded upon, the Board adjourned till 10 o' Clock to morrow morning.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany Thursday 27th June 1754. A. M.
Present

The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

The Draught of the general Speech was further debated, and not being fully concluded upon, the Board adjourned to Five o' Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany June 27th 1754. Thursday P. M.
Present

The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

A Motion was made that the Commissions or Powers from the several Governments should be made Part of the Records of this Congress. It was unanimously agreed to and ordered to be prefixed to these Records.

The Draught of the general Speech was settled, read and unanimously approved of, and is as follows.

Brethren,

I have invited You here by the Command of the great King our common Father, to receive a Present from him, and in his Name to renew the antient Treaty between this and all his other Governments and You our Brethren; and I have the Pleasure to tell You that by his special Order there are now present Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland. Virginia and Carolina likewise desire to be considered as present, although some great affairs which those Governments are engaged in have prevented their sending Commissioners. We are glad to see our Brethren here in Health, and heartily bid You welcome.

A Belt.

Brethren

Brethren,

We condole You and our Loss in the Death of some of your People since the last ..... Interview in this Place; We wipe away all Tears from your Eyes, and take away Sorrow from your Hearts, that You may speak freely.

Three Strings of Wampum.

Brethren,

We come to strengthen and brighten the Chain of Friendship, it gives Us great Satisfaction that You have lately added two Links to the Chain the Shanicharaudighroones and the Teddirighroones, as it will always give Us Pleasure to see your Strength encreased. This Chain hath remained firm and unbroken from the Beginning. This Belt will represent to You our Disposition to preserve it strong and bright, so long as the Sun and Moon shall endure. And in the Name of the great King our Father, and in the Behalf of all his Majesties Colonies, We now solemnly renew, brighten and strengthen the antient Covenant Chain, and promise to keep the same inviolable and free from Rust, and We expect the like Confirmation and Assurance on your Part.

A Chain Belt.

Brethren,

We are informed that You now live dispersed from each other, contrary to the antient and prudent Custom of your Forefathers, and as You are by this means exposed to the Attempts of your Enemies, We therefore in the most earnest Manner recommend to and expect from You for your own Safety to collect Yourselves together, and dwell in your National Castles. We desire You, Brethren of the Onondago Nation, in particular to call in your Friends and Relations to join You, especially those of your Nation, who now live at Oswegachie. A brave People separated from each other may easily fall a Sacrifice, whereas united they may live secure and unimpaired.

a Belt.

Brethren,

We have something to say to You of great Importance. The Treaty subsisting between Us and You our Brethren as well as the great Affection We bear towards You, obliges Us to mention it.

The French profess to be in perfect Friendship with Us as well as You; notwithstanding this, they are making continual Encroachments upon Us both. They have lately done so in the most insulting manner, both to the Northward and Westward; your Fathers by their Valour above one hundred Years ago, gained a considerable Country, which they afterwards of their own accord put under the Protection of the King of Great Britain. The French are endeavouring to possess themselves of this whole Country, altho' they have made the most express Treaties with the English to the contrary.

Brethren,

It appears to Us, that these Measures of the French must necessarily soon interrupt and destroy all Trade and Intercourse between the English and the several Indian Nations on the Continent, and will block up and obstruct the great Roads which have hitherto lain open, ... between You and your Allies and Friends who live at a Distance.

We want to know whether these Things appear to You in the same Light as they do to Us, or whether the French taking Possession of the Lands in your Country, and building Forts between the Lake Erie and the River Ohio, be done with your Consent or Approbation.

A large Belt.

Brethren,

Open your Hearts to Us. Deal with Us as Brethren. We are ready to consult with You, how to scatter these Clouds that hang over Us. This is a Matter of so great Weight, that We think it best to defer mentioning any other Affairs till You have considered this, least they should take away Part of that Attention which is necessary on so extraordinary an Occasion.

A Belt.

Adjourned till to morrow morning eleven o'Clock.

Pennsylvania. 1754.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Friday 28th June 1754. A.M.

Present.

John Chandler	Esquires Commissioners from Massachusets Bay.	Richard Wibird	Esquires Commissioners for New Hampshire.
Oliver Partridge		Meshec Weare & Henry Sherburne	
John Worthington			
Roger Wolcott	Esquires commissioners for Connecticut.	Martin Howard Junr. Esquire Commissioner for Rhode Island.	
Elisha Williams		John Penn Esquire One of the Commissioners for Pennsylvania.	

The Board was adjourned till Five o'Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting &c. on Friday P. M. June 28th 1754.

Present

The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.
All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay.
All the Commissioners from New Hampshire.
All the Commissioners from Connecticut.
Stephen Hopkins Esquire One of the Commissioners from Rhode Island.
John Penn and Benjamin Franklin Esquires Commissioners from Pennsylvania.
Benjamin Tasker Junr. Esquire One of the Commissioners from Maryland.

The Committee appointed the 24th Instant, to prepare and receive Plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies, presented short Hints of a Scheme for that Purpose, of which Copies were ... taken by the Commissioners of the respective Provinces.

Adjourned till to morrow Morning nine o'Clock.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany Saturday 29th June 1754. A.M.

Present

William Smith Esquire One of the Council of New York and all the Commissioners.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York having given Notice to this Board, that He was going to speak to the Indians, the Board adjourned till Five o'Clock this Afternoon, and attended his Honour whilst he delivered the Speech.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Saturday 29th June 1754. P. M.

Present

Joseph Murray, John Chambers and William Smith Esquires of the Council of New York.
All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay.
Theodore Atkinson and Richard Wibird Esquires Commissioners for New Hampshire.
All the Commissioners from Connecticut.
The Commissioners from Rhode Island.
All the Commissioners from Pennsylvania.
The Commissioners from Maryland.

The Board being informed that a considerable Number of Indians from Stockbridge, being of the ... Nation known by the Name of the River Indians, were in Town, a Motion was made that his Honour the Lieutenant Governor might be acquainted with the Circumstances of said Indians, and desired to give Orders for their Support.

The

The said Motion was agreed to, and Mr. Wells and Mr. Franklin were appointed to wait on his Honour accordingly.

The Hints of a Scheme for the Union of the Colonies were debated on, but came to no Conclusion.

Adjourned till Monday Morning 9 o'Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Monday July 1st. 1754. A.M.

Present

The Lieutenant Governor and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York.
All the Commissioners for Massachusets Bay except John Chandler Esquire.
Theodore Atkinson and Henry Sherburne Junr. Esquires Commissioners for New Hampshire.
The Commissioners for Connecticut.
The Commissioners for Rhode Island.
All the Commissioners for Pennsylvania.
The Commissioners for Maryland.

Mr. Franklin reported to the Board that he had with Mr. Wells (Mr. Wells not then present) waited on the Lieutenant Governor, and delivered the Message from the Board of Saturday last relating to the River Indians, living near Stockbridge, and that his Honour was pleased to answer, that he had not sent for those Indians, that he had consulted his Council, and enquired of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, and was informed that it had never been usual to afford Subsistence to those Indians at any Treaty in Albany; that it was a great Expence to New York to maintain the other Indians; that these properly belonged to Massachusets Bay Government, and it appeared to him that they should be supported by that Government.

Upon a Motion made, the Records of Indian Affairs of the Province of New York were sent for, and it appeared that the River Indians have usually been present at the Treaties with the Six Nations, and that a Speech has always been made to said River-Indians; and it was moved to the Lieutenant Governor of New York, that He would now speak to them in the Name of the Commissioners from the several Colonies, and also give Orders for their Support.

His Honour agreed to the Proposal of speaking to them; and offered to give Orders for their Support, but was pleased to say, that he expected the Commissioners for the several Provinces would contribute to the Charge of it.

His Honour delivered to the Board, Copies of Two Minutes of Council, which are as follow.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the 27th June 1754. P.M.

Present

The Honourable James DeLancey Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.

Mr. Murray	Mr. Chambers
Col. Johnson	Mr. Smith

His Honour being informed by the Indian Interpreter, that the Lower Castle of the Mohawk Indians now in this City, had some Business to lay before him, and desired to be admitted to an Audience, appointed them to attend at four o'Clock this afternoon in Council, and they attending accordingly were introduced with the Interpreter.

The Governor told them he was very glad to see them, that he was now met in Council, and ready to hear what they had to say. Whereupon Canadagaia their Speaker addressing himself to his Honour, spoke as follows.

Brother,

We are here this Day by God's Will and your Honour's Order, to which Place you have led Us as it were by the Hand. This is our old Meeting Place, where if We have any Grievances We can lay

lay them open. You are lately come to the administration, and We are glad to see You, to lay our Complaints before You. We take it very kind You have given Us this Opportunity to unfold our Minds, and We will now proceed to declare our Grievances.

Brother,

We shall now open our Minds, and We beg You will take Time to consider what We shall say, and not give Us too hasty an Answer, or in two or three Words, and then turn your Back upon Us. As You are a new Governor, We beg You will treat Us tenderly, and not as the former Governor did, who turned his Back upon Us before We knew he intended to depart, so that We had no Opportunity to finish our Business with him. The Reason We desire You would treat Us in this tender manner is because this is the Place, where We are to expect a Redress of our Grievances, and We hope all Things will be so settled that We may part good Friends.

Brother,

We told You a little while ago, that We had an Uneasiness on our Minds, and We shall now tell You what it is. It is concerning our Land. We understand that there are Writings for all our Lands, so that We shall have none left, but the very Spot We live upon, and hardly that. We have examined amongst the elderly People, who are now present, if they have sold any of it, who deny that they ever have: and We earnestly desire that You will take this into Consideration, which will give Us great Satisfaction, and convince Us that You have a Friendship for Us. We don't complain of those who have honestly bought the Land they possess, or of those to whom We have given any, but of some who have taken more than We have given them. We find We are very poor. We thought We had yet Land round about Us, but it is said there are Writings for it all. It is one Condition of the antient Covenant Chain, that if there be any Uneasiness on either Side or any Request to be made, that they shall be considered with a Brotherly Regard; and We hope You will fulfill that Condition on your Side as We shall be always ready to do on Ours. We have embraced this Opportunity of unbosoming Ourselves to You with Regard to our Castle, and We are well assured that the other Castle of the Mohocks have Complaints of the same Nature to make when they come down. We have now declared our own Grievances, and the Connajoharys will declare theirs, but that We shall leave to them. By this Belt We desire You to consider what We have said, and by the same We inform You that the Five Nations have something to say to You before You speak to them.

Gave a Belt.

The Governor said,

You have now unbosomed yourselves to me, and desire I would seriously consider of what You have said, and not give You a hasty Answer. I will consider of it seriously, and You shall always find me ready to redress any of your Grievances as far as it may be in my Power, but your Complaints are general, I must therefore desire You to tell me where those Lands lye, and the Names of the Persons of whom You complain.

To which their Speaker answered,

Brother,

We are told a large Tract of Land has been taken up called Kayadarosseras beginning at the half Moon, and runs along Hudson's River to the Third Fall, and thence to the Cachnawaga or Canada Creek, which is about four or five Miles above the Mohocks, which upon Enquiry among our old Men We cannot find was ever sold. And as to the particular Persons many of them live in this Town, but there are so great a Number We cannot name them.

The Governor said, I will send for some of the Patentees or the Persons claiming that Land, and hear what they have to say, and consider the Matter, and give You an Answer before You leave this Place. It is agreeable to Justice to hear both Parties before a Judgment is given

given, and to manifest my Friendship for You, I will do You all the Justice in my Power.

A true Copy, Examined by
Geo. Banyar D. Sth: Council.

At a Council held in the City of Albany the 28th Day of June 1754.

Present

The Honourable James Delancey Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.ª

Mr. Murray — Mr. Chambers
Col. Johnson — Mr. Smith.

His Honour being informed that the Connajoharys, or the Upper Castle of the Mohock Indians, and several Sachems of each of the other Five Nations attended without, and desired to speak to him, they were introduced with the Interpreter.

Hendrick their Speaker spoke as follows.

Brother,

We had a message from You sometime ago to meet You at this Place where the Fire burns, We of Connajoharra met the Messenger You sent with a Letter at Col. Johnson's, and as soon as We .... received it We came down running, and the Six Nations are now here compleat.

The Governor then said, Brethren of the Six Nations, You are welcome. I take this Opportunity now You are all together, to condole the Loss in the Death of your Friends and Relations since You last met here, and with this String of Wampum I wipe away your Tears, and take Sorrow from your Hearts, that You may open your Minds and speak freely.

a String of Wampum.

Hendrick replied.

Brother,

We thank You for condoling our Loss, and for wiping away our Tears that We may speak freely, and as We do not doubt but You have lost some of your great Men and Friends, We give You this String of Condolence in Return, that it may remove your Sorrow, and that We may both speak freely.

Gave a String.

Then Hendrick, addressing himself to the Six Nations, said, that last Year he attended Col. Johnson to Onondago to do Service to the King and their People, that Col. Johnson told them a new Governor was expected soon, and they would then have an Opportunity of seeing him at Albany, and laying their Grievances before him. That the new Governor arrived soon after, and scarcely had they heard of his .... Arrival, but they had an account of his Death, and that now he was glad to see his Honour, to whom he would declare his Grievances. And then proceeded,

Brother,

We thought You would wonder that We of Connajoharra staid so long. We shall now give You the Reason. Last Summer We of Connajoharra were down at New York to make our Complaints, and We then thought the Covenant Chain was broken, because We were neglected; and when You neglect Business the French take Advantage of it, for they are never quiet. It seemed to Us that the Governor turned his Back upon the Five Nations, as if they were no more, whereas the French are doing all in their Power to draw Us over to them. We told the Governor last Summer, We blamed him for the Neglect of the Five Nations, and at the same Time We told him the French were drawing the Five Nations away to Oswegashaa, owing to that Neglect, which might .... have been prevented, if proper Use had been made of that Warning, but now We are afraid it is too late. We .... remember how it was in former Times, when We were a strong and powerful People; Col. Schuyler used frequently to come among Us, and by this means We were kept together.

Brother,

Pennsylvania. 1754.

Brother,

We the Mohocks are in very difficult Circumstances, and are blamed for Things behind our Backs which We do not deserve. Last Summer when We went up with Coll Johnson to Onondago, and he made his Speech to the Five Nations, the Five Nations said they liked the Speech very well, but that the Mohocks had made it. We are looked upon by the other Nations as Coll Johnson's ..... Counsellors, and supposed to hear all News from him, which is not the Case, for Coll Johnson does not receive from or impart much News to Us.

This is our Reason for staying behind, for if We had come first, the other Nations would have said that We made the Governor's Speech, and therefore though We were resolved to come, We intended the other Nations should go before Us, that they might hear the Governor's Speech, which We could hear afterwards.

There are some of our People who have large open Ears, and talk a little broken English ..... and Dutch, so that they sometimes hear what is said by the Christians, Settlers near them; and by this means We came to understand, that We are looked upon to be a proud Nation and therefore staid behind. 'Tis true and known We are so, and that We the Mohocks are the Head of all the other Nations. Here they are, and they must own it. But it was not out of Pride We Conajoharys staid behind, but for the Reasons We have already given.

His Honour answered.

Brethren of Conajoharry, You have now told me the Reason why You staid behind, because You would not be blamed by the other Nations as You have been before. I am satisfied with what You say, that your staying behind did not proceed from Pride.

You tell me You have large open Ears, and that some of You understand a little of the ..... Language of the Settlers about You. But I must caution You not to hearken to common Reports, neither of Us or your Brethren of the other Nations. I desire that We may all speak freely, and open our Hearts to each other, and to remove any Jealousies from amongst Us.

I hope that at another Interview, You will all be more punctual, and keep as near as You can to the Time appointed. You are sensible it must be very inconvenient to me, and the ..... Commissioners from the other Governments, to be detained so long in this Place, at so great a Distance from our Homes.

A true Copy, Examined by

Geo: Banyar. Dy C of the Council

A Motion was made that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies, which was agreed to, and that the Gentlemen who were appointed to prepare and receive Plans or Schemes for the Union of the Colonies the 24th Ultimo, should be a ..... Committee for this Purpose.

The Plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated; but the Board came to no Resolve upon it.

Adjourned till 9 o'Clock to morrow morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Tuesday the 2d. July 1754. A. M.

Present

All the Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

After Debates held on the Plan of an Union, it was moved, if the Board should proceed to form the Plan of a Union of the Colonies, to be established by an Act of Parliament.

Whereupon, it was moved to put the previous Question, which passed in the Negative. The Question was then put, whether the Board should proceed to form the Plan of a Union of the Colonies to be established by Act of Parliament, which passed in the affirmative.

Adjourned till three o'Clock in the afternoon.

At a Meeting as aforesaid on Tuesday the 2d. July 1754. P.M.

Present

The Lieutenant Governor, and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, and all the Commissioners from the several Governments abovementioned.

The Answer of the Six Nations to the general Speech made to them on Saturday last by his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York, in his Majesties Name, and in the Presence and Behalf of the several Governments on the Continent therein named was read, and is as follows.

Abraham, Sachem of the Upper Castle of the Mohocks, rose up, and said,

Brethren, You, the Governor of New York, and the Commissioners of the other Governments, Are You ready to hear Us?

The Governor replied, they were all ready.

Then Hendrick, Brother to the said Abraham, and a Sachem of the said Castle, rose up and spoke in Behalf of the Six Nations, as follows.

Brethren,

Just now You told Us You were ready to hear Us; hearken to me.

Brother Corlear, and Brothers of the other Governments,

Saturday last You told Us that You came here by Order of the Great King, our common Father, and in his Name to renew the antient Chain of Friendship between this and the other Governments on the Continent, and Us the Six United Nations; and You said also that there were then present ..... Commissioners from Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland; and that Virginia and Carolina desired to be considered also as present. We rejoice that by the Kings Orders We are all met here this Day, and are glad to see each Other Face to Face. We are very thankful for the same, and We look upon the Governors of South Carolina and Virginia as also present.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

We thank You in the most hearty manner for your condolance to Us. We also condole all your Friends and Relations, who have died since our last Meeting here.

Gave three Strings of Wampum.

Brethren (holding the Chain Belt given by his Honour and the several Governments in his Hand)

We return You all our grateful acknowledgments for renewing and brightening the Covenant Chain. This Chain Belt is of very great Importance to our United Nations, and all our allies; We will therefore take it to Onondage, where our Council Fire always burns, and keep it so securely, that neither Thunder nor Lightning shall break it. There we will consult over it, and as We have lately added two Links to it, so We will use our Endeavours to add as many Links more to it as lies in our Power, and We hope when We shew You this Belt again, We shall give You Reason to rejoice at it, by your seeing the Vacancies in it filled up (referring to his Honours Explanations of it in the general Speech). In the meantime, We desire that You will strengthen Yourselves, and bring as many into this Covenant Chain as You possibly can. We do now solemnly renew and brighten the Covenant Chain with our Brethren here present, and all our other absent Brethren on the Continent.

Brethren,

As to the Accounts You have heard of our living dispersed from each other, 'tis very true. We have several Times endeavoured to draw off those our Brethren who are settled at Oswegachie, but in vain, for the Governor of Canada is like a wicked deluding Spirit. However, as You desire, We shall persist in our Endeavours.

You have asked Us the Reason of our living in this dispersed Manner. The Reason is, your ..... neglecting Us for these three Years past [Then taking a Stick, and throwing it behind his Back] You have thus thrown Us behind your Backs, and disregarded Us, whereas the French are a subtle and vigilant People, ever using their utmost Endeavours to seduce and bring our People over to them.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

Brethren,

As to the Encroachments of the French, and what You have said to Us on that Article, in the Behalf of the King our Father, as these Matters were laid before Us as of great Importance, so We have made a strict Enquiry amongst all our People, if any of them have either sold or given the French Leave to build the Forts You mention; and We cannot find that either any Sale has been made, or Leave has been given, but the French have gone thither without our Consent or Approbation, nor ever mentioned it to Us.

Brethren,

The Governor of Virginia and the Governor of Canada are both quarrelling about Lands which belong to Us. And such a Quarrel as this may end in our Destruction. They fight who shall have the Land. The Governors of Virginia and Pennsylvania have made Paths thro' our Country to trade, and built Houses without acquainting Us with it; They should first have asked our Consent to build there, as was done when Oswego was built.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

It is very true as You told Us, that the Clouds hang heavy over Us, and it is not very pleasant to look up, but We give You this Belt (giving a Belt) to clear away all Clouds, that We may all live in bright Sunshine, and keep together in strict Union and Friendship; then We shall become strong, and nothing can hurt Us.

Brethren;

This is the antient Place of Treaty, where the Fire of Friendship always used to burn; and it is now three Years since We have been called to any publick Treaty here.

It is true there are Commissioners here, but they have never invited Us to smoke with them, (by which they mean the Commissioners had never invited them to any Conferences) but the Indians of Canada come frequently and smoke here, which is for the Sake of the Beaver; but We hate them, (meaning the French Indians) We have not as yet confirmed the Peace with them. It is your Fault, Brethren, that We are not strengthned by Conquest, for We would have gone and taken Crown-Point, but You hindered Us. We had concluded to go and take it, but We were told it was too late, and that the Ice would not bear Us. Instead of this You burnt your own Fort at Saraghtoga, and ran away from it, which was a Shame and a Scandal to You. Look about your Country, and see You have no Fortifications about You, no not even to this City. It is but one Step from Canada hither, and the French may easily come and turn You out of your Doors.

Brethren,

You desired Us to speak from the Bottom of our Hearts, and We shall do it. Look about You and see all these Houses full of Beaver and the Money is all gone to Canada; likewise Powder, Lead and Guns, which the French now make Use of at Ohio.

Brethren,

The Goods which go from hence to Oswego, go from thence to Ohio, which further enables the French to carry on their Designs at the Ohio.

Brethren;

You were desirous that We should open our Minds and our Hearts to You. Look at the French, they are Men; they are fortifying every where; But, We are ashamed to say it, You are all like Women, bare and open without any Fortifications.

Here Hendrich ended his Speech, his Brother Abraham then rose up and said,

Brethren;

We would let You know what was our Desire three Years ago, when Co. Johnson laid down the Management of Indian Affairs, which gave Us great Uneasiness. The Governor then told Us, it was not in his Power to continue him, but that he would consult with the Council at New York; that he was going over to England, and promised to recommend our Desire that Co. Johnson should have the Management of Indian Affairs to the King, that the new Governor might have Power to reinstate him. We long waited in Expectation of this being done, but hearing no more of it, We embrace this

Opportunity

Opportunity of laying this Belt (and gave a Belt) before all our Brethren here present, and desire them that Col. Johnson may be reinstated, and have the management of Indian affairs, for he all lived happy whilst they were under his management; for We love him, and he has always been our good and trusty Friend.

Brethren,

I forgot something, We think our Request about Col. Johnson, which Governor Clinton ..... promised to carry to the King our Father, is drowned in the Sea. The Fire here is burnt out, and .... (turning his Face to the New York Commissioners of Indian affairs at Albany, who were there present) desired them to take Notice of what he said.

Which Answer from the Indians was debated Paragraph by Paragraph, and those Gentlemen who were appointed a Committee to prepare a general Speech the 19th Ultimo were now appointed to draw up a Reply.

Adjourned till to morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Wednesday 3d. July 1754. A. M.

Present

John Chambers, William Smith } Esquires of the Council of New York.
Samuel Wells, John Chandler, Oliver Partridge } Esquires Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.
Theodore Atkinson & Rich. Wybert Esqrs Commrs from N. Hampshire.
The Commissioners from Connecticut.
Martin Howard Esquire a Commissioner from Rhode Island.
All the Commissioners from Pennsylvania.
Benjamin Tasker Esq One of the Comrs from Maryland.

A Draught of the Reply proposed to be made to the Speech of the Six Nations of the 1st Instant, which the Committee appointed Yesterday afternoon had drawn up, was read. Mr Chambers desired to carry it to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor for his Opinion, which was agreed to.

Took their Seats at the Board.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor.
Joseph Murray and William Johnson Esquires of the Council of New York.
Thomas Hutchinson and John Worthington Esquires Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.
Mesheck Wear and Henry Sherburne Esquires Commissioners for New Hampshire.
Stephen Hopkins, One of the Commissioners from Rhode Island.
Abraham Barnes Esquire One of the Commissioners from Maryland.

His Honour laid before the Board certain Matters, which he proposed to be inserted in the Reply to be made to the Six Nations; which, together with the Draught from the Committee, was read and debated.

The Commissioners from Pennsylvania also laid before the Board, an Addition in Behalf of their Province, and proposed it to be added to the Reply. The Commissioners from Massachusets, New Hampshire and Connecticut proposed also some Additions.

These several Draughts being read and considered, the following Reply to the Six Nations was agreed upon by the Board.

Brethren,

It gives Us great Pleasure to see You so ready to renew and brighten the antient Chain of Friendship; We wish the further Extension of it, and shall not fail joining our utmost Endeavours for that Purpose.

Brethren,

We are sorry that any Neglect has been shewn to You, and We hope that nothing of that Kind will happen hereafter, or any Misunderstanding arise between You and any of his Majesties Governments. You are our old and steady Friends; We assure You not one Thought has ever come into

into our Minds of rejecting You. Our Hearts have ever been warm towards You, and We now gladly meet, and open our Hearts to You: the Covenant is renewed, the Chain is brightened, the Fire burns clear, and We hope all Things will be pleasant on both Sides for the future.

A Belt.

Brethren,

We gladly understand that You gave no Countenance to the French who went to Ohio, and have entered on your Lands; they are always your and our open or secret Enemies. You did put this Land under the King our Father; He is now taking Care to preserve it for You. For this End, among Others, He has directed Us to meet You here; for altho the Land is under the King's Government, yet the Property or Power of selling it to any of his Majesties Subjects having Authority from him, We always consider as vested in You.

Brethren,

You say that the Governors of Virginia and Canada are fighting about Lands belonging to You, and that the Governors of Virginia and Pennsylvania have opened new Roads and built Houses at Ohio.

What You say is a great Surprize to Us. We all know that for Five Years past, in the Face of all the Six Nations, in open Day Light, the French have been marching Troops into that Country, which We ever did; and do still acknowledge to belong to You, the within your Father the King of Great Britain's Dominions, and under his Protection. and the French did publish every where their Designs to build Forts, and drive away the English Traders; and they did carry them into Execution by seizing the Traders. And did last Year actually build Two Forts in that Country. But We never heard notwithstanding these open Hostilities of the French, that ever Virginia or Pennsylvania sent one Soldier, or built one House for their and your Protection till this present Year.

It is fortunate that Mr. Weiser, who transacts the publick Business of Virginia and Pennsylvania with your Nations, and is one of your Council, and knows these Matters well is now present. Hear the Account he gives, and that will set this Matter in a true Light.

Mr. Weiser was then to say as follows.

Brethren,

The Road to Ohio is no new Road: it is an old and frequented Road. The Shawanese and Delawares removed thither above thirty Years ago from Pennsylvania, ever since which that Road has been travelled by our Traders at their Invitation, and always with Safety, until within these few Years that the French with their usual Faithlessness sent Armies there, threatned the Indians and obstructed our Trade with them. The Governor of Virginia observing these Hostilities in Time of full Peace, sent his Majesty an Account of them. His Majesty was pleased to order his Governor to hold an Interview with the Six Nations, to consult Measures with them how to put a Stop to these French Proceedings, equally injurious to them as to his Subjects. And that they might better know them, it was thought the Interview might best be held at some Place near the Country where these hostile Proceedings were carried on. His Majesty likewise ordered a Present to the Six Nations, as a farther Token of his Affection for them. Accordingly Mr. Weiser in 1750 was sent to Onondago by the Governor of Virginia, and invited the Indians to come and treat at Frederichsburg in that Province; and receive the King's Present, but could not prevail. The Governor of Virginia finding the French still continuing their Hostilities, sent Commissioners in 1751 to the Indians at Ohio, and delivered them the King's Present, and by a Belt of Wampum proposed that a strong House might be built near the Mouth of Mohongiale for their mutual Protection. The Indians made Answer, that they were well pleased with the Proposal, and would send that Belt to Onondago, and join one of their own to it. Nothing was heard of this Belt, and the last Year the French invaded the Country of Ohio with a strong Hand, whereupon the Indians residing there, your Flesh and Blood, sent repeated Messages to the Governor of Virginia to send his young Men to their Assistance. But he being a Person of great Forethought and Prudence, still forebore to do it, and instead thereof sent two Messages by Mr. Andrew Montour to Onondago, for your Advice how to act. It happened that no Council could be called at either Time. The Chiefs of Onondago desired Mr. Montour to tell their Brother the

Governor

Governor of Virginia to act cautiously, and let the French strike the first Blow.

The French then coming nearer and nearer, Tanacharison (otherwise called the Half King) was sent to them by the United Nations at Ohio, together with the Shawonese and Delawares, to forewarn them off their Land. In the meantime, other Chiefs of these several Nations came to Virginia and Pennsylvania, and told Us what they had agreed upon in Council, viz.t that they, the Rest of the Chiefs, should come to Us, and desire Us to call our People from over the Alleghenny Hills, to prevent..... Bloodshed between the English and French. But when these Indians returned, and found that the French paid no Regard to their Warning, but told them positively, that if they opposed their taking ... Possession of that Country, they would cut them off, they sent repeated Messages to the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia to apprize them of their, the Indians, immediate Danger; telling them they would find nothing but the ashes of their Houses, and their Bones, if they did not forthwith send Warriors, and build them a House to fly to. Having a late Example before their Eyes, in that the French had fallen upon their Brethren the Twightwees on a sudden and..... killed them in their Houses, as well as some English who were there trading with them.

On this melancholy News, the Governor of Virginia, agreeable to the Request of the Indians, sent People to build an House at the mouth of Mohongialo; but before they had finished it, the French came down the River with a Thousand Men and 18 Cannon, and told the People who were building it, and were but 44 in Number, that they must either fight or give up..... Possession, which last they were obliged to do on account of the superior Force of the French.

Brethren,

This is the Truth, which We have thought proper to relate so particularly, that the prudent and cautious Conduct of Virginia might be known to the Six Nations. As to Pennsylvania, they have never sent a Warrior or built a Fort at Ohio. This Belt is given to confirm what is said, and that You may remember what has now been related to You.

a Belt.

Here Mr. Weiser's Relation ends.

Brethren,

You tell Us We are open and defenceless. We are consulting how far it will be necessary to fortify our Frontiers. At the same time We expect You will take Care to keep your People from going over to the French. We are able when united with You, to resist any Force the French and their Allies can bring against Us.

The following Paragraphs were to be spoke by the Governor of New York, in his own Name.

Brethren,

You have told me that this is the Place of Treaty; that it is now three Years ago since You were asked to smoke a Pipe here; that there are Commissioners but they have never invited You to smoke.... with them.

It was their Duty on their Appointment to acquaint You with it, and to invite You to smoke with them, and to rekindle the Fire which was then almost extinguished; and if they had done it earlier and before I sent them Directions, it would have been very agreeable to me.

Brethren,

You say the Houses here are full of Beaver. This is a Trading Place, and the Merchants have a Right to traffick for Beaver or other Skins, which they sometimes pay for in Goods, and sometimes in Money. But as to what You say about Guns and Powder being sold to the French, I have made all the Enquiry I could into this Matter, and am assured You are misinformed; for that neither Guns nor Powder are sold by any Persons here to the French.

Brethren,

You tell me that whilst Col.o Johnson had the Management of Indian Affairs, You all lived happy; that You loved him, and he You; and that he has always been your good and trusty Friend. I am very sensible You had good Reason to look upon him in this Light, and fully convinced that he is still your Friend; but as this is the Place where the antient Fire was kindled, which was nearly burnt out, and as

as Col. Johnson for some Reasons declined the Management of Indian affairs, it was thought ..... proper to rekindle the Fire hereby appointing Commissioners whom I shall direct to receive and consult with You upon all Business, that may concern our mutual Interests, and I expect that You will for the future, apply to them according to the Custom of your Forefathers, to tell your News, and in Return to receive from them what shall be thought necessary to be imparted to You: and I will give them Directions that they treat You with the affection due to You as Brethren. I will make Tryal of them another Year, and if You do not meet with the kind Treatment You have a Right to expect; complain to this Government, and effectual Measures shall be taken for your Satisfaction.

Gave a Belt.

The following was to be spoke by Mr. Kellogg Interpreter from ..... Massachusets Bay.

Brethren,

We have agreed to tell all News, and take Council together. We cannot part till We have told You the News from England, tho at a considerable Distance from You. The French have the ... same bad Designs there as well as at Ohio. They are very fond to get Kennebeck River. We have News of their beginning a Fort at the Head of that River. A Priest of theirs has built a House a great way down that River. Governor Shirley has raised 800 Men, and is gone down to drive them away, and to build an English Fort at the Head, or far up the said River Kennebeck. We have News also that the French are building a Fort up ..... Connecticut River, Northward of Cowas. The Governor of New Hampshire has now sent a Company of Men up that River to enquire into that Fact, and if true to drive them immediately off. In another Part of the Government of New Hampshire, a Number of the St. Francis Indians have lately taken a Family consisting of a Man and his Wife and three Children, and carried them into Captivity from an Out Settlement on Merrimack River; and this contrary to their solemn Engagement at a Treaty held with them.

We have also News that a Number of Indians have murdered twenty one English Fishermen at Canso, and had carried their Scalps to Cape Breton, where they were well received, and it is said, rewarded.

The Board then adjourned till to morrow morning at 9 o'Clock.

At a Meeting at the Court House in Albany Thursday July 4th. 1754. A. M.

Present

The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, and all the Commissioners of the several Governments.

The Plan for a Union of the Colonies was debated, but nothing was finally determined on.

Adjourned to three o'Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting as above Thursday the fourth July 1754. P. M.

Present

All the Commissioners for the several Governments.

The Plan for a Union was further considered, but no Resolves made thereupon.

The Board receiving a Message from his Honour the Governor of New York, that the Indians were seated in order to speak to his Honour and the Commissioners; the Board adjourned to nine o'Clock to morrow morning, and waited upon the Governor.

At

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Friday July 5th 1754 A.M.

Present

all the Commissioners for the several Governments.

The Rejoinder of the Six Nations, spoke yesterday afternoon, was read to the Board, and ordered to be minuted as follows.

(The following Speech is chiefly a Rejoinder to the Reply made to the Six Nations, on the third Instant.)

Brother of New York and Brethren of the several Governments. We on our Side are equally rejoiced as You have expressed yourselves, on the renewing and brightening the antient Covenant Chain between all his Majesties Governments on the Continent, and Us of the Six United Nations.

As to what the Governor of New York told Us yesterday, relating to the Commissioners of Indian affairs at Albany, We are much obliged to him for his Promise to direct them to take Notice of Us for the future, that he will try them for one Year longer, and for giving Us Leave to acquaint this Government, if they do not treat Us as Brethren.

Brethren, We have told the Governor of New York how Col. Johnson has behaved to Us, and our Opinion of him, and the Danger We thought Ourselves in by his leaving off the Management of Indian affairs. If he fails Us, We die. However, We agree to what the Governor has proposed to Us. He is Master of all to do what he pleases, and We submit the whole Affair to him.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

We are very thankful to the King our Father, for ordering Commissioners from so many Governments to meet here, in order to enquire into all Matters relating to Us, and to put every thing on a right Footing. We rejoice that We have opened our Hearts to each other, and We return the Governor and all the Commissioners from the several Governments our Thanks for the same.

Brethren

Some time ago the King our Father, sent a Present to the Governor of Virginia, who sent a Messenger to the Six Nations, that We should come down and receive it, but We could not come; We have since been informed that the Present was sent to Ohio. The Speaker then proceeded to repeat the Substance of what was said to them yesterday, on the Part of Pennsylvania by their Interpreter Mr. Weiser.

We allow that the Road from Pennsylvania to Ohio is no new Road, but has been travelled there thirty Years by the Traders.

We thank the Governor of Virginia for assisting the Indians at Ohio, who are our Relations and Allies, and We approve of the Governor of Pennsylvania not having yet intermeddled in the affair. He is a wise, a prudent Man, and will know his own Time.

We return the Governor of New York and all the other Governments our most hearty thanks (here the Speaker made Bows to his Honour and all the Commissioners) for the Promise of Protection give us of our Land and the Acknowledgment that the Right of settling it is in Us.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

We put You in mind in our former Speech of the defenceless State of your Frontiers, particularly of this City, of Schenectady, and of the Country of the Five Nations. You told Us Yesterday, You were consulting about securing both yourselves and Us. We beg You will resolve on something speedily; You are not safe from Danger one day; the French have their Hatchet in their Hands, both at Ohio, and in two Places in New England. We don't know but this very Night they may attack Us.

One of the principal Reasons why We desire You will be speedy in these Matters, is, that since

since Col. Johnson has been in this City, there has been a French Indian at his House, & who took Measure of the Wall round it, and made very narrow Observation on every thing thereabouts.

We think him (Col. Johnson) in very great Danger, because the French will take more than ordinary Pains either to kill him, or take him Prisoner on Account of his great Interest among us, and being also One of the Five Nations [Col. Johnson is One of their Sachems]

Upon this they gave Four Strings of Wampum.

The Board then proceeded to consider the Plan for a Union, but did not go thro' with it.

Adjourned to Nine o'Clock to morrow morning.

At a Meeting held in the Court House at Albany Saturday July 6th 1754. A.M.

Present

All the Commissioners for Massachusets Bay.
William Pitkin & Roger Wolcot Esquires Commissioners for Connecticut.
The Commissioners for Rhode Island.
John Penn, Isaac Norris & Benjamin Franklin Esquires Commissioners for Pennsylvania.
The Commissioners for Maryland.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor sent to the Board, the Speech he proposes to make to the River Indians, which the Board agreed to with a small Addition, which was sent in Writing to the Governor.

The Board having been informed by Mr. Peters, that the Lieutenant Governor of New York sent for him last Night, & told him; his Provisions were expended, and he could no longer maintain the Indians, and he expected the Commissioners would maintain them, and gave him the List of what had been allowed p.r Day to the Five Nations exclusive of the River Indians.

The Board hereupon resolved, that they would take the Charge of supporting the River Indians upon themselves.

Meshech Weare and Henry Sherburne Esquires Commissioners from New Hampshire took their Seats.

The Committee appointed the first Instant to draw up a Representation of the present State of the Colonies with Relation to the French, delivered the same to the Board, which was read and ordered to lie on the Table for the Consideration of the Commissioners.

The Secretary presented to the Board a Draught of the Speech which his Honour proposed to deliver to the Six Nations this afternoon, and also the following Message from his Honour, that the Board would please to send him any Alterations or Additions which they might think proper to be made to the said Draught; that his Honour intended when he made the Speech to the Indians, to read to them, the Act of the General Assembly of New York concerning the Sale of Rum to the Indians, and that he also recommended the Request of the Upper Castle of the Mohocks for a Church to the Board. The Secretary also brought back his Honours Approbation to the small Addition proposed to be made to the Speech intended to be made to the River Indians. Which Speech is as follows.

Brethren,

I have sent for You here, to give You fresh Assurances of the great King your Father's Protection, and that We might with the Commissioners, whom You now see assembled here, from the Governments of Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pensylvania and Maryland strengthen and brighten the Covenant Chain.

We are glad to see You, at this your old Meeting Place, and We do now in his Majesties Name,

and

and in Behalf of all his Colonies renew the antient Covenant Chain of Friendship, that it may be stronger and brighter than ever, which We recommend to You, to preserve clean and free from Rust, by a peaceable and affectionate Behaviour to all your Brethren, and especially to those who live near You, and You may then with Confidence rely on the Favour of this and all his Majesties Governments.

As a Proof of the King your Father's tender Regard for You, I shall deliver You a Present he has sent You, consisting of such Necessaries as You may want, and the Commissioners from each of the Governments have contributed towards a Present for You also. All which Presents shall be here ready for You in the afternoon.

Elisha Williams Esquire Commissioner for Connecticut took his Seat. On a Motion made and seconded, that a Message be sent to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York relating to the answer he proposes to make to the Six Nations, Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Franklin were appointed to prepare the same.

Theodore Atkinson and Richard Wibird Esquires Commissioners for New Hampshire took their Seats; as did also Richard Peters Esquire One of the Commissioners for Pennsylvania.

Mr. Hutchinson reported the following Message.

May it please your Honour,

The Commissioners from the several Governments now met at Albany observe, that in the Speech your Honour proposes to make this Day to the Indians of the Six Nations, and which You have caused to be communicated to the Board by their Secretary, no Notice is taken of the Complaints of the said Indians relating to their Lands. This Complaint seems by the Letter from the Right Honourable the Lords of Trade, which your Honour has laid before the Board, to have been the principal Occasion of this unusual and expensive Meeting of Commissioners from so many Colonies, and it appears by the last Answer from the Indians that their Uneasiness still remains.

The Commissioners therefore think it incumbent on them to pray your Honour, that they may be acquainted with the particulars of the Complaint, and that they may have an Opportunity of consulting with your Honour proper Measures for removing the Causes thereof. — Which was read and unanimously agreed to, and it was thereupon ordered, that Mr. Wells and Mr. Pitkin wait upon his Honour the Lieutenant Governor with the same.

Adjourned to three o'Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting &c. on Saturday the Sixth July 1754. P.M.

Present

All the Commissioners for Massachusets Bay — All the Commissioners for New Hampshire — The Commissioners from Connecticut — Stephen Hopkins Esquire Commissioner from Rhode Island.

Mr. Wells reported to the Board, that he and Mr. Pitkin had delivered the Message they were appointed in the morning to deliver to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York.

The Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, Martin Howard, Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Barnes Esquires took their Seats.

Mr. Murray delivered to the Board, his Honour the Lieutenant Governor's Answer in Writing to the Message delivered to his Honour in the Morning by Mr. Wells and Mr. Pitkin, which was read, and is as follows.

Gentlemen,

In Answer to your Message to me this Day, I acquaint You, that Yesterday I had the Sachems of the Connajoharry Castle before me in Council, to conclude the matter in Controversy between some Germans, and one Teady Magin, relating to an Indian Purchase that had occasioned the greatest Uneasiness among the Indians of that Castle, which after two meetings was then formally and finally settled to the Satisfaction of all Parties.

I then took Occasion to observe to them, that at their meeting on the second Instant, I desired them

Pennsylvania. 1754.

them to open their minds fully, and that I expected they would then have laid all their Complaints before me. – That as to what they had mentioned in their publick Speech on the fourth Instant, I was not acquainted with any other particular Complaints, until I came to this Place, being abroad on the Circuit at the Time they made them at Newyork, and then I promised as soon as I returned thither, I would look into them, and do all the Justice that lay in my Power, with which they declared themselves well satisfied, and thanked me.

Albany 6 July 1754. Jas. Delancey.

The Board being obliged to attend at the Interview of the Schaticook and River Indians adjourned to Monday morning Nine o'Clock.

At a Meeting &c.a at Albany on Monday the 8th Instant 1754. A. M.

Present

William Johnson and William Smith Esquires Two of the Council of Newyork and all the Commissioners.

The Speech proposed by his Honour to be made to the Indians of the Six Nations having been again read to the Board, and the Complaint of the Indians relative to their Lands, coming under their Consideration, the Board were acquainted, that Mr. William Livingstone and Mr. William Alexander, Two of the Heirs or Devisees of Philip Livingstone Esquire Deceased, the Proprietor or Patentee of the Lands, on which Connajoharry Castle stands, had declared their Readiness to give up all Right to said Patents, or such Parts as shall be thought necessary; it was ordered, that said Mr. Livingstone and Mr. Alexander be informed, that the Board desired to speak with them. Mr. Livingstone and Mr. Alexander being present, informed the Board, that their Father was one among other Patentees of the Lands mentioned, that they were interested 1/8 each of them in their Father's Right.

The Circumstances of his Title they had made no Enquiry into, but were ready to make any Resignation, which either Justice or the publick Service required.

The Board being informed, that his Honour the Lieutenant Governor desired a Gentleman from each Government might be appointed to be present with him in making Enquiry of the Indians of the Connajoharry Castle how far they were satisfied respecting their Land, Mr. Peters and Mr. Howard were appointed to wait on the Governor, and acquaint him, that the Board agreed to the Proposal; accordingly Mr. Hutchinson was appointed for Massachusets Bay, Col. Atkinson for New Hampshire, Col. Wolcott for Connecticut, Mr. Hopkins for Rhode Island, Mr. Norris for Pennsylvania, Col. Tasker for Maryland.

Joseph Murray and John Chambers Esquires of the Council of Newyork took their Seats.

His Honour's Draught of the Speech he proposes to make to the Six nations, which was delivered to the Board the Sixth Instant was read, and after Debate had thereon, relative to the Sale of Rum amongst them, and the Connajoharry's Desire about a Church, some Alterations and Additions to it were agreed to be proposed to his Honour.

The Representation of the present State of the Colonies was again read through, but no final Resolution thereon agreed to.

The Answers of the Schaahticook and River Indians to the Speech made them the sixth Instant were read, and are as follows.

The Speech of the Schaahticook Indians.

Father,

We are glad that the Governor sees his Children now before him, We are small in Number, but next Time We hope We shall be more. Your Honour may see that We are but young and unexperienced, our antient People being almost all dead, so that We have nobody to give Us any Advice, but We will do as our Fathers have done before Us.

Gave a Belt.

Father,

This Belt came from our Forefathers, and We will be true and faithful to the King as they were.

Gave a Belt.

They gave also to the Governor a small Bundle of Skins, and desired that the Sale of Rum might be stopped at Schaahticook; and that if they want it, they will come and buy it at Albany.

The Speech of the River Indians.

Fathers

We are greatly rejoiced to see You all here. It is by the Will of Heaven that We are met here, and We thank You for this Opportunity of seeing You altogether, as it is a long time since We have had such an One. Fathers, who set present here. We will just give You a short Relation of the long Friendship which has subsisted between the White People of this Country and Us— Our Forefathers had a Castle on this River, as One of them walked out he saw something on the River, but was at a Loss to know what it was, he took it at first for a great Fish, he ran into the Castle and gave Notice to the other Indians; two of our Forefathers went to see what it was and found it a Vessel with Men in it. They immediately joined Hands with the People in the Vessel and became Friends. The white People told them, they should not come any further up the River at that Time; and said to them, that they would return back from whence they came, and come again in a Years Time. according to their Promise, they returned back in a Years Time, and came as far up the River as where the old Fort stood. Our Forefathers invited them ashore, and said to them, here We will give You a Place to build You a Town, it shall be from this Place up to such a Stream (meaning where the Patroons Mill now stands) and from the River back up to the Hill.

Our Forefathers told them tho they were now a small People, they would in time multiply and fill up the Land they had given them. After they were on shore some time, some other Indians who had not seen them before, looked fiercely at them, and our Forefathers observing it, and seeing the White People so few in Number, least they should be destroyed took and sheltered them under their Arms, but it turnd out, that those Indians did not desire to destroy them, but wished also to have the said White People for their Friends. At this Time which We have now spoken of, the White People were small, but We were very numerous and strong, we defended them in that low State, but now the Case is altered.

You are numerous and strong, we are few and weak, therefore We expect that You will act by Us in these Circumstances, as We did by You in those We have just now related. We view You now as a very large Tree, which has taken deep Root in the Ground, whose Branches are spread very wide. We stand by the Body of this Tree, and We look round to see if there be any who endeavour to hurt it, and if it should so happen, that any are powerful enough to destroy it, We are ready to fall with it.

Gave a Belt.

Fathers,

You see how early We made Friendship with You. We hid each other in a very strong Chain, that Chain has not yet been broken, We now clean and rub that Chain to make it brighter and stronger, and We determine on our Parts that it never shall be broken, and We hope You will take Care, that neither You nor any one else shall break it, and We are greatly rejoiced, that Peace and Friendship have so long subsisted between Us.

Gave a Belt.

Fathers,

Don't think strange of what We are about to say. We would say something respecting our Lands. When the White People purchased from Time to Time of Us, they said they only wanted to purchase the Low Lands, they told Us the hilly Land was good for nothing, and that it was full of Woods and Stones, but now We see People living all about the Hills and Woods altho they have not purchased the Lands. When We enquire of the People who live on these Lands what Right they have to them, they reply to Us, that We are not to be regarded, and that these Lands belong to the

King

King. But We were the first Possessors of them, and when the King has paid Us for them, then they may say they are his.

Hunting now is grown very scarce, and We are not like to get our Living that Way, therefore We hope our Fathers will take Care that We are paid for our Lands that We may live.

Gave a Belt.

Made a Present of a Bundle of Skins.

The Board then adjourned to three o' Clock this afternoon.

At a Meeting &c.ª Monday 8th July 1754. P.M.

Present

All the Commissioners except Colo. Atkinson, Mr. Norris and the Commrs. of Maryland.

The Board proceeded in their Consideration upon the Plan for a Union, but did not go thro with it.

The Speech proposed to be made to the Six Nations was returned to the Board from his Honour with the Alterations and Additions proposed by the Board in the Morning.

Ordered, that the said Speech lie upon the Table till some further Matters relating to it be agreed on by the Board.

The Committee appointed in the morning to be present with the Governor of New York at a Conference with the Connayohary Indians returned from the same and reported as follows.

That his Honour enquired of the Indians whether they had not expressed themselves satisfied with the measures he had taken concerning their Lands, and the Promise that he would enquire further into the affair when he came to New York, to which they replied, that they were sensible his Honour was at Albany, when they made their Complaints at New York last Year, that he had told them he had now left the Papers there, but would enquire into it when he came there. That they were willing to try one Year more, and if Matters were not made up by the Governor whom they looked on as their Elder Brother, but neglected as... they used to be, they would send to all their other Brothers (pointing to the Commissioners) for their Assistance, and that they agreed to this the rather as there were French Indians in Town, and they did not think it convenient to have any Difference before them, upon which his Honour again assured them he would enquire into their affairs, in order to their being satisfied, especially as he had the Kings Orders for it.

The Board receiving a Message from his Honour, that the Sachems of the Six ..... Nations were attending to be spoke to, the Board adjourned to nine o' Clock to morrow Morning, and waited upon the Governor.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Tuesday 9th July 1754. a.m.

Present

Joseph Murray and William Smith Esquires of the Council of New York, all the Commissrs except Colo. Patridge and Mr. Hopkins.

The publick Conference between his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York, and the Commissioners from the several Governments with the Sachems of the Six Nations ..... yesterday evening, was read and ordered to be entered as follows.

Brethren,

You told me your Hearts were deeply concerned at the sad Effects which may arise from selling Rum in your respective Countries, I will give Orders that the Laws already made for preventing the Sale of this Liquor among You shall be strictly put in Execution; and whatever further Provision in the Law is necessary, I will endeavour it shall be made, that You may see I take Care of your Health and your Peace, which are hurt and disturbed by the Use of this ..... Liquor among You of the Five Upper Nations. And as to what You of the Mohocks have said,

I

I shall consider how far it may be necessary to restrain the People living round You from selling Rum, and if I can think of a proper Remedy for this Evil, I will endeavour to apply it.

Brethren of the Upper Castle of the Mohocks,

I am well pleased with your Request to have a Church built amongst You, and I shall do every thing in my Power to promote so good a Work. And it is very agreeable to me and the Commissioners from all the Governments present to find a Disposition in You to receive the Christian Religion.

Brethren,

As I have given You Satisfaction with respect to one of your Complaints about your Lands, which lay heavy on your minds, and have assured You that I shall endeavour to do You Justice as to the rest when I come to New York, I shall not say any thing farther to You on that Affair now.

The Governor being informed by the Interpreter that they chose to have the Powder divided on the Hill, told them it was in his Opinion better for them to have it sent to Schenectady. Hendrick answered for them, just as his Honour pleased, who told them he would order the Powder to Schenectady, and the Rum above the Settlements, with which they expressed themselves satisfied.

His Honour then said,

I have now done speaking to You, but before I cover up the Fire, I must recommend it to You to behave quietly and peaceably to all your Brethren, and their Castle in your Return home.

Hendrick then replied,

Your Honour told Us You now covered up the Fire, and We are highly pleased that all Things have been so amicably settled, and hope that all that has passed between Us may be strictly observed on both sides.

Brethren of the several Governments,

We hope that You will not fail in the Covenant Chain wherewith We have mutually bound Ourselves, and now so solemnly renewed and strengthened. If We don't hold fast by this Chain of Friendship, our Enemies will laugh Us to scorn.

Brethren,

We wish You would all contribute to provide some Provision for Us in our Way home, which will effectually prevent our People from killing the Inhabitants Cattle, and We desire You will provide some Waggons for Us to go to Schenectady. We think this Expence will fall too heavy upon one Province, as We have the Presents from all to carry up. We beg We may all take Care of the Tree of Friendship, and preserve it, by our mutual Attention from any Injuries. We will take Care of it on our Sides, and We hope our Brethren will do soon theirs. We wish this Tree of Friendship may grow up to a great Height, and then We shall be a powerful People.

Brethren,

We the United Nations shall rejoice in the Encrease of our Strength, so that all other Nations may stand in Awe of Us.

Brethren,

I will just tell You what a People We were formerly. If any of our Enemies rise against Us, We had no Occasion to lift up our whole Hand against them, for our little Finger was sufficient. And as We have now made so strong a Confederacy, if We are truly earnest therein, We may retrieve the antient Glory of the Five Nations.

Brethren,

Brethren,

We have now done, but one Word We must add. The Interpreter if the French continue their Hostilities will want Assistance, three or four to be joined with them, but this matter We submit to the Governor. We have now fully finished all that We have to say.

The Governor replied,

Brethren,

It gives me and all the Commissioners here present great Satisfaction, that this Interview has concluded so amicably on all sides. I have ordered thirty Waggons to be provided for your Service, which I expect here to morrow morning; and I have ordered Provisions for You to serve You on your Journey.

I hope that by this present Union We shall grow up to a great Height, and be as powerful and famous as You were of old.

As to the Interpreter, when the Circumstances of this Country require it, he shall have the necessary Assistance; and I assure You in the Name of this Government, and all the Governments here present, that We shall endeavour to extend and preserve the Covenant Chain by every possible method in our Power.

They asked his Honour when Himself and the Commissioners proposed to return Home. His Honour answerd, that they had some matters yet to settle about the Union and then they should set out for their respective Habitations.

The Governor then in his own Name and that of the Commissioners wished them a good Journey, and they returned the Compliment, and then the Conferences broke up.

The Answers of the Lieutenant Governor and the Commissioners to the Schaahticook and River Indians were next read and ordered to be entered as follows.

The Answer to the Schaahticook Indians.

Children,

We condole with You on the Loss of your old and experienced People.

A String.

Children,

I and the Commissioners from the other Governments here present are glad to see, that altho You are young and unexperienced, yet You are willing to take Advice, and are determined to remain faithful to the King, and friendly to all his Subjects.

A Belt.

Answer to the River Indians.

Children,

We are glad to find that You treasure up in your Memories the mutual Instances of Friendship between our Ancestors and yours, the Remembrance of that Friendship will descend to our Posterity, and We desire You to hand it down to Yours, and altho there is a great Alteration in Circumstances since our Predecessors first came among You, yet We have not less Affection for You, than they had.

A Belt.

Children,

Your brightening and strengthening the Covenant Chain is well pleasing to me and the Commissioners; We acknowledge You have never broken it, We have likewise preserved it entire, and are determined to continue to do so.

A Belt.

Children,

You complain that some of the People of this Province are in Possession of your Lands which You never sold; this is a Complaint which affects Persons who live at a Distance, I have ordered Notice to be given them of it, and if upon Enquiry into the

Affair

affair; it shall appear that You have been injured, I will endeavour to get You redressed; but I shall observe to You, that the constant method of granting Lands in this Province is and has been by Licence from the Governor to purchase from the Indians, and upon the Purchase being returned before him in Council, He, with their advice orders a Patent, and that most of these Lands concerning which You complain were patented when You were Children, some before any of You were born.

Ordered, that the following Minutes be made, that the last Paragraph of the foregoing Answer to the River Indians about the manner of patenting Lands in this Province, beginning with the Words, I shall observe was an Addition made by his Honour to the Draught sent him yesterday by this Board.

Col. Johnson, Mr. Chambers, Col. Patridge and Mr. Hopkins took their Seats.

The Plan of the Union was debated and agreed upon, and Mr. Franklin was desired to make a Draught of it as now concluded upon.

Adjourned till Five o'Clock this Evening.

At a Meeting &c. on Tuesday the Ninth of July 1754. P. M.

Present

The Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York – and all the Commissioners except Mr. Franklin, absent by his Appointment in the morning.

The Draught of the Representation &c. was read and considered Paragraph by Paragraph some amendments made, and the whole was agreed to and ordered to be inserted as follows,

That his majesties Title to the Northern Continent of America appears to be founded on the Discovery thereof first made, and the Possession thereof first taken in 1497, under a Commission from Henry the Seventh of England to Sebastian Cabot.

That the French have possessed themselves of several Parts of this Continent, which by Treaties have been ceded and confirmed to them.

That the Right of the English to the whole Sea Coast from Georgia on the South to the River Saint Lawrence on the North, excepting the Island of Cape Breton, and the Islands in the Bay of Saint Lawrence, remains indisputable.

That all the Lands or Countries, Westward from the Atlantick Ocean to the South Sea, between 48 and 34 Degrees North Latitude, were expressly included in the Grant of King James the First, to divers of his Subjects, so long since as the Year 1606, and ... and afterwards confirmed in 1620, and under this Grant the Colony of Virginia ... claims Extent as far West as the South Sea, and the antient Colonies of the Massachusets Bay and Connecticut were by their respective Charters made to extend to the said South Sea, so that not only the Right to the Sea Coast, but to all the Inland Countries from Sea to Sea, has at all Times been asserted by the Crown of England.

That the Province of Nova Scotia, or Acadia hath known and determinate Bounds by the original Grant from King James the First, and that there is abundant Evidence of the Sense which the French had of these Bounds while they were in Possession of it; and that these Bounds being thus known, the said Province by the Treaty of Utrecht according to its antient Limits was ceded to Great Britain, and remained in Possession ... thereof until the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, by which it was confirmed. But by said Treaty it is ... stipulated, that the Bounds of the said Province shall be determined by Commissaries ... by ... nated

That

Pennsylvania. 1754.

That by the Treaty of Utrecht, the Country of the Five Cantons of the Iroquois, is expressly acknowledged to be under the Dominion of the Crown of Great Britain.

That the Lake Champlain, formerly called Lake Iroquois, and the Country Southward of it, as far as the Dutch or English Settlements, The Lakes Ontario, Erie, and all the Countries adjacent, have by all ancient Authors French and English been allowed to belong to the Five Cantons or Nations; and the whole of these Countries long before the said Treaty of Utrecht were by the said Nations put under the Protection of the Crown of Great Britain.

That by the Treaty of Utrecht there is reserved to the French, a Liberty of frequenting the Countries of the Five Nations, and other Indians in Friendship with Great Britain, for the Sake of Commerce, as there is also to the English a Liberty of frequenting the Countries of those in Friendship with France for the same Purpose.

That after the Treaty of Utrecht, the French built several Fortresses in the Country of the Five Nations, and a very strong One at a Place called Crown Point, to the South of Lake Champlain.

That the French Court hath evidently since the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, made this Northern Continent more than ever the Object of its Attention.

That the French have most unjustly taken Possession of Part of the Province of Nova Scotia, and in the River St. Johns and other Parts of said Province they have built strong Fortresses; and from this River they will have during the Winter and Spring Season a much easier Communication between France and Canada than they have heretofore had; and will be furnished with a..... Harbour more commodiously situated for the annoying the British Colonies by Privateers and Men of War than Louisbourg itself.

That they have taken Possession of and began at the Head of the River..... Kennebeck, within the Bounds of the Province of Main; the most convenient Situation for affording Support and safe Retreat to the Eastern Indians in any of their Attempts upon the Governments of New England.

That it appears by Information of the Natives, the French have been making Preparations for another Settlement at a Place called Cowass on Connecticut River near the Head thereof, where it is but about Ten Miles distant from a Branch of Merrimack River, and from whence there is a very near and easy Communication with the Abnehais Indians, who are settled on the River St. François about forty miles from the River St. Lawrence: And it is certain that the Inhabitants of.... New Hampshire, in which Province this Cowass is supposed to lye, have been interrupted and impeded by the French Indians from making any Settlement there.

That since the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, the French have encreased the Number of their Forts in the Country of the Great Lakes, and on the Rivers which run into the Mississippi, and are securing a Communication between the Two Colonies of Louisiana and Canada, and at the same time putting themselves into a..... Capacity of annoying the Southern British Colonies, and preventing any further Settlement of his Majesties Dominions.

That they have been gradually encreasing their Troops in America, transporting them in their Ships of War, which return to France with a bare Complement of Men, leaving the rest in their Colonies; and by this means they are less observed by the Powers of Europe than they would be, if Transports as usual heretofore were provided for this Purpose.

That

That they have taken Prisoners divers of his majesties Subjects trading in the Country of the Iroquois, and other Inland Ports, and plundered such Prisoners of several thousand Pounds Sterling, and they are continually exciting the Indians to destroy or make Prisoners the Inhabitants of the Frontiers of the British Colonies, which Prisoners are carried to Canada, and a Price equal to what Slaves are sold for in the Plantations demanded for their Redemption and Release.

That they are continually drawing off the Indians from the British Interest, and have lately persuaded One Half of the Onondago Tribe, with many from the other Nations along with them to remove to a Place called Oswegachie, on the River Cadaraqui, where they have built them a Church and Fort; and many of the Senecas the most numerous Nation appear to be wavering and rather enclined to the French. And it is a melancholy Consideration, that not more than 150 Men of all the several Nations have attended this Treaty, altho' they had Notice that all the Governments would be here by their Commissioners, and that a large Present would be given.

That it is the evident Design of the French to surround the British Colonies, to fortify themselves on the Back thereof, to take and keep Possession of the mouth of all the important Rivers, to draw over the Indians to their Interest, and, with the Help of such Indians, added to such Forces as are already arrived, and may be hereafter sent from Europe, to be in a Capacity of making a general Attack upon the several Governments. And if at the same Time a strong Naval Force be sent from France, there is the utmost Danger that the whole Continent will be subjected to that Crown. And that the Danger of such a naval Force is not merely imaginary may be argued from past Experience; for if it had not been for the most extraordinary Interposition of Heaven, every Sea Port Town on the Continent, in the Year 1746 might have been ravaged and destroyed by the Squadron under the Command of the Duke D'Anville, notwithstanding the then declining State of the French, and the very flourishing State of the British Navy, and the further Advantage accruing to the English from the Possession of Cape Breton.

That the French find by Experience they are able to make greater and more sure advantages upon their Neighbours in Peace than in War. That they unjustly possessed themselves of after the Peace of Utrecht, they now pretend to have a Right to hold, by Virtue of the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle, until the true Boundary between the French and English be settled by Commissaries. But their Conquests made during the War, they have been obliged to restore.

That the French affairs relative to this Continent are under one Direction, and constantly regarded by the Crown and Ministry, who are not insensible how great a Stride they would make towards an Universal Monarchy if the British Colonies were added to their Dominions, and consequently the whole Trade of North America engrossed by them.

That the said Colonies being in a divided, disunited State, there has never been any joint Exertion of their Force or Counsels to repel or defeat the Measures of the French, and particular Colonies are unable and unwilling to maintain the Cause of the Whole.

That there has been a very great Neglect of the Affairs of the Iroquois, or as they are commonly called the Indians of the Six Nations, and their Friendship and Alliance has been improved to private Purposes, for the Sake of the Trade with them, and the Purchase or Acquisition of their Lands, more than to the publick Service.

That they are supplied with Rum by the Traders in vast and almost incredible Quantities, the Laws of the Colonies now in Force being insufficient to restrain the Supply, and the Indians of every Nation are frequently drunk and abused in their Trade; and their Affection thereby alienated

alienated from the English; they often wound and murder one another in their Liquor, and to avoid Revenge fly to the French, and perhaps more have been lost by these means, than by the French artifices.

That Purchases of Lands from the Indians by private Persons for small trifling Considerations have been the cause of great Uneasiness and Discontents, and if the Indians are not in fact imposed on and injured, yet they are apt to think that they have been, and indeed they appear not fit to be entrusted at large with the Sale of their own Lands, and the Laws of some of the Colonies which make such Sales void, unless the allowance of the Government be first obtained, seem to be well founded.

That the granting or patenting vast Tracts of Land to private Persons, or Companies, without Conditions of speedy Settlement hastened, has tended to prevent the Strengthening the Frontiers of the particular Colony where such Tracts lye, and been prejudicial to the Rest.

That it seems absolutely necessary, that speedy and effectual measures be taken to secure the Colonies from the Slavery they are threatned with. That any further advances of the French should be prevented, and the Encroachments already made removed; that the Indians in Alliance or Friendship with the English, be constantly regarded under some wise Direction or Superintendency. That Endeavours be used for the Recovery of those Indians who are lately gone over to the French, and for securing those that remain. That some discreet Person, or Persons, be appointed to reside constantly with each Nation of Indians, such Person to have no Concern in Trade, and duly to communicate all Advices to the Superintendants.

That the Trade with the said Indians be well regulated, and made subservient to the Publick Interest, more than to private Gain. That there be Forts built for the Security of each Nation, and the better carrying on the Trade with them; that Warlike Vessels be provided, sufficient to maintain his majesties Right to a free Navigation on the several Lakes.

That all future Purchases of Lands from the Indians be void, unless made by the Government, where such Lands lye, and from the Indians in a Body in their publick Councils. That the Patentees or Possessors of large unsettled Territories be enjoined to cause them to be settled in a reasonable Time on Pain of Forfeiture. That the Complaints of the Indians relative to any Grants or Possessions of their Lands, fraudulently obtained be enquired into, and all Injuries redressed. That the Bounds of those Colonies which extend to the South Seas be contracted and limited by the Alleghany or Apalachian Mountains, and that Measures be taken for settling from Time to Time Colonies of his majesties Protestant Subjects, Westward of said Mountains, in convenient Cantons to be assigned for that Purpose; and finally, that there be a Union of his majesties several Governments on the Continent, that so their Councils, Treasure and Strength may be employed in due Proportion, against their common Enemy. all which is submitted.

Adjourned till Nine o'Clock to morrow Morning.

At a Meeting in the Court House in Albany Wednesday 10th July 1754. A.M.

Present

Joseph Murray and William Smith Esquires of the Council of New York.
all the Commissioners for Massachusets Bay. all from New Hampshire except Mr Sherburn. all the Commissioners for Connecticut. The Commissioners for Rhode Island. All the Commissioners for Pennsylvania. and all the Commissioners for Maryland.

Mr. Franklin reported the Draught in a new Form of a Plan of Union agreeable to the Determination of yesterday, which was read Paragraph by Paragraph, and debated, and the further Consideration of it deferred to the afternoon.

Adjourned to Three of the Clock this afternoon.

at a Meeting &c.ª on Wednesday the Tenth of July 1754. P.M.

Present

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, and the Four Gentlemen of the Council of New York —

And

all the Commissioners for the respective Governments.

The Consideration of the Plan of a Union was reassumed; which Plan is as follows viz.t

PLAN of a proposed Union of the several Colonies of Massachusets Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jerseys, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, for their mutual Defence and Security, and for extending the British Settlements in North America.

That humble Application be made for an Act of the Parliament of Great Britain by Vertue of which one general Government may be formed in America, including all the said Colonies, within and under which Government each Colony may retain its present Constitution, except in the particulars wherein a Change may be directed by the said Act, as hereafter follows.

Presid.t General & Grand Council

That the said general Government be administred by a President..... General to be appointed and supported by the Crown, and a Grand Council to be chosen by the Representatives of the People of the several Colonies, met in their respective Assemblies.

Electron of Members

That within Months after the passing of such Act, the House of Representatives in the several Assemblies that happen to be sitting within that Time, or that shall be specially for that Purpose convened, may and shall chuse Members for the Grand Council, in the following Proportions, that is to say,

Massachusets Bay	7
New Hampshire	2
Connecticut	5
Rhode Island	2
New York	4
New Jerseys	3
Pennsylvania	6
Maryland	4
Virginia	7
North Carolina	4
South Carolina	4
	48

Place of first Meeting

who shall Meet for the first Time at the City of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, being called by the President General as soon as conveniently may be after his Appointment.

New Electron

That there shall be a new Election of Members for the Grand Council every Three Years, and on the Death or Resignation of any member, his Place shall be supplied by a new Choice at the next Sitting of the Assembly of the Colony he represented.

Proportion of Members after first three Years.

That after the first Three Years, when the Proportion of Money arising out of each Colony to the general Treasury can be known, the Number of Members to be chosen for each Colony shall from Time to Time, in all ensuing Elections be regulated by that Proportion; [yet so, as that the Number to be chosen by any one Province be not more than Seven, nor less than two.]

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Meetings of Grand Council and Call. That the Grand Council shall meet once in every Year, and oftner if Occasion require, at such Time and Place as they shall adjourn to at the last preceding Meeting, or as they shall be called to meet at by the President General on any Emergency, he having first obtained in Writing the Consent of Seven of the Members to such Call, and sent due and timely Notice to the Whole.

Continuance. That the Grand Council have Power to chuse their Speaker, and shall neither be dissolved, prorogued, nor continued Sitting longer than Six Weeks at one Time, without their own Consent, or the Special Command of the Crown.

Members Allowance. That the members of the Grand Council shall be allowed for their Service, Ten Shillings Sterling p^d Diem, during their Sessions and Journey to and from the Place of Meeting; Twenty Miles to be reckoned a Days Journey.

Assent of Pres^t-General and his Duty. That the Assent of the President General be requisite to all Acts of the Grand Council; and that it be his Office and Duty to cause them to be carried into Execution.

Power of Pres^t & Grand Council. Treaties. Peace & War. Indian Trade. That the President General, with the advice of the Grand Council, hold or direct all Indian Treaties in which the general Interest or Welfare of the Colonies may be concerned; and make Peace or declare War with the Indian Nations. That they make such Laws as they judge necessary for regulating all Indian Trade.

Indian Purchases. That they make all Purchases from Indians for the Crown, of Lands now not within the Bounds of particular Colonies, or that shall not be within their Bounds when some of them are reduced to more convenient Dimensions.

New Settlements. That they make new Settlements on such Purchases, by granting Lands on the Kings Name, reserving a Quit Rent to the Crown for the Use of the general Treasury.

Laws to govern them. That they make Laws for regulating and governing such new Settlements, till the Crown shall think fit to form them into particular Governments.

Raise Soldiers & equip Vessels. That they raise and pay Soldiers, and build Forts for the Defence of any of the Colonies, and equip Vessels of Force to guard the Coasts, and protect the Trade on the Ocean, Lakes, or great Rivers.

Not to impress But they shall not impress men in any Colony, without the Consent of its Legislature.

Power to make Laws Lay Duties &c^a That for these Purposes they have Power to make Laws, and lay & levy such general Duties, Imposts, or Taxes, as to them shall appear most equal and just, considering the Ability and other Circumstances of the Inhabitants in the several Colonies, and such as may be collected with the least Inconvenience to the People, rather discouraging Luxury, than loading Industry with unnecessary Burthens.

Genl Treas^r & particul^r Treas^r That they may appoint a general Treasurer, and a particular Treasurer in each Government when necessary; and from Time to Time may order the Sums in the Treasuries of each Government into the general Treasury, or draw on them for special Payments, as they find most convenient.

Money how to issue Yet no money to issue but by joint Orders of the President General and Grand Council, except where Sums have been appropriated to ..... particular Purposes, and the President General is previously empowered by an act to draw for such Sums.

Accounts. That the General accounts shall be yearly settled and reported to the ... several Assemblies.

Quorum. That a Quorum of the Grand Council, empowered to act with the President General, do consist of Twenty Five members, among whom there shall be one or more from a majority of the Colonies.

Laws to be transmitted. That the Laws made by them for the Purposes aforesaid, shall not be repugnant but, as near as may be, agreeable to the Laws of England, and shall be transmitted to the King in Council for Approbation, as soon as may be after their passing, and if not ..... disapproved within Three Years after Presentation, to remain in Force.

That

Death of the Pres. Genl. That in case of the Death of the President General, the Speaker of the Grand Council for the Time being shall succeed, and be vested with the same Powers and Authorities, to continue till the King's Pleasure be known.

Officers how appointed. That all military Commission Officers, whether for Land or Sea Service, to act under this general Constitution, shall be nominated by the President General; but the Approbation of the Grand Council is to be obtained before they receive their Commissions. And all Civil Officers are to be nominated by the Grand Council, and to receive the President General's Approbation before they officiate.

Vacancies how supplied. But in Case of Vacancy by Death or Removal of any Officer civil or military, under this Constitution, the Governor of the Province, in which such Vacancy happens, may appoint, till the Pleasure of the President General and Grand Council can be known. That the particular Military as well as Civil Establishments in each Colony remain in their present State, this general Constitution notwithstanding.

Each Colony may defend itself on Emergency. And that on sudden Emergencies any Colony may defend itself, and lay the Accounts of Expence thence arising, before the President General and Grand Council, who may allow and order Payment of the same, as far as they judge such Accounts just and reasonable.

After Debate on the foregoing Plan,

Resolved,

That the Commissioners from the several Governments be desired to lay the same before their respective Constituents for their Consideration, and that the Secretary to this Board transmit a Copy thereof with this Vote thereon to the Governor of each of the Colonies, which have not sent their Commissioners to this Congress.

His Honour proposed to the Board, that agreeable to their Resolution of the twenty fourth of June, they would now consider the Expediency of building Forts in the Indian Country. It was determined, that considering the present wavering Disposition of the Senecas, it was expedient that a Fort should be built in their Country, at a Place called Irondiquot, or Tierondequot.

Ordered,

That a Committee be appointed to consider what further Forts may be necessary in the Country of the Six Nations, and that each Colony name a Member for this Committee.

Ordered,

That Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters be a Committee to revise the Minutes settled and agreed to by this Board.

Adjourned till to morrow morning at Nine o'Clock.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Albany Thursday 11th July 1754. A.M.

Present

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, and the four Gentlemen of the Council of New York, all the Commissioners from the several Governments, except William Pitkin Esquire, One of the Commissioners of Connecticut.

Mr. Wells from the Committee appointed to consider what other Forts may be necessary reported, that they had carefully considered the present State of the Frontiers of these Colonies, and are of Opinion, that several other Forts at particular Passes are equally necessary with that proposed at Tierondiquot; that as there is no Probability of their being effected in the present disunited State of the Colonies, and the general Union may make some of them unnecessary, We apprehend some Inconveniences may arise, if the Board should go further into the Consideration of that Matter at this Time.

His

His Honour put the Question, Whether the Board would accept of this Report, and it passed in the affirmative.

Certain Proposals from William Johnson Esquire relative to the Six Nations, and for defeating the Designs of the French; also certain Considerations offered by Thomas Pownall Esquire towards a general Plan of the Measures of the English Provinces were read at the Board. It was thereupon voted, that Mr. Franklin be desired to give the Thanks of this Board to the said Mr. Johnson and Mr. Pownall, and desire them to suffer Copies of said Papers to be taken by the Commissioners of each Colony, for the Consideration of their respective Governments.

Ordered,

That all his Majesties Governments on this Continent may have Liberty from time to time to take Copies of the Proceedings of this Congress, or any Parts thereof, paying for the same; and that no other Copies be delivered by the Secretary.

Ordered,

That upon the Secretaries leaving this Province, the Records of these Proceedings of the Commissioners of the several Governments be lodged in the Secretaries Office of the Province of New York.

Mr. Chambers and Mr. Peters reported, that they had examined these Minutes of the Proceedings of this Congress, and find them right.

And then his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New York, and the Commissrs of the several Governments rose without any further Adjournment.

A true Copy
Examined by
me Peter Wraxall
Secretary

The Governor informed the Council that having a standing Instruction from the Proprietaries to take all Opportunities of making another Purchase of Lands from the Six Nations, which was every Day become more urgent by the great Numbers of People settling beyond the Blue Hills over Susquehannah, as all such Settlements were contrary to the Stipulations of this Government with those Indians, and might create Differences with them, He had recommended it to Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters to try by all the means in their Power to make a Purchase, and the larger the better; and to facilitate this necessary Work, He had by the advice of Mr. Weiser dispatched John Shickcalamy early in the Spring with a Message to the Six Nations, informing them of the Necessity of another Purchase by reason of the Encrease of the Inhabitants, and their being not to be restrained from making Settlements beyond the present Boundaries; and desiring they would enter into Treaty with Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters, who were to be at Albany in the Summer, and would have full Powers for that Purpose

His Honour further said, that in Consequence of this Message a Treaty had been held with these Indians, and the Report thereof made to him, which he would now communicate to the Council, and accordingly it was read, and ordered to be entered.

The Report of John Penn and Richard Peters Esquires of their Proceedings at Albany, in Execution of the Governors Orders to them to make a Purchase of Lands from the Six Nations, for the Use of the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania.

To the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and the Three Lower Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex upon Delaware.

May it please the Governor,

The first Indians that made their Appearance were from the Heads of Susquehannah, as low down as Oneoequago, and by these, who came immediately to visit the Commissioners from Pennsylvania

as

as indeed all the other Indians did, We were informed that a young man from new England, One Mr. Hawley of Boston had for some time past lived at Oneocquago, with Intent as was said to instruct the Indians in the Principles of the Christian Religion, and to settle a Mission there, under a Scotch Society; but it was told the Interpreter, that he had other Designs in settling there, and that the People of Connecticut made Use of this young man to persuade the Indians to sell to them the Sasquehannah Lands; and as he was an acquaintance of Mr. Ogilvie, the Societies Missionary to the Mohock Indians, We desired him to enquire of this matter, and were afterwards told, that he did not concern himself in this affair.

† Mr. William Alexander of New York was kind enough to tell Us, that Mr. Woodbridge, who kept an Indian School at Stockbridge in New England, and Two Connecticut Gentlemen, viz.t were in Town, with Intent to negotiate a Purchase from the Indians for the Sasquehannah Lands, lying within the Latitude of the Connecticut Charter, in favour of some private Persons of that Government, and had with them a thousand Pieces of Eight, and were busy conferring with the Indians on this Subject at the House and thro the means of Mr. Lydius. This Lydius is an Inhabitant of Albany, known to have abjured the Protestant Religion in Canada, and to be concerned in a clandestine Trade with the Caghnawaga, or French Praying Indians, and suspected to carry on a secret Correspondence with the Governors of Canada; and as Mr. Alexander informed Us might not only have lucrative Views in the Manage=ment of this Purchase, but a Design to sow Dissentions as well between the Indian Nations, as between the several Colonies whose Lands lay within the Latitude of the Connecticut Charter, and at the same Time Mr. Alexander kindly offered his Services to Us, telling Us, that he was acquainted with the two Connecticut Gentlemen, and believed it might not be amiss for Us and them to come together. This Proposal was readily embraced by Us, and Mr. Alexander was told that the Proprietaries had good Deeds for all the Sasquehannah Lands as well as solemn Treaties and Agreements with the Indians, whereby they engaged to sell no Lands within the Bounds of Pennsylvania Charter to any but the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania; and he was desired to mention this to the Connecticut Agents, and that We should be glad to make them sensible of the Goodness of the Title of the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, in order to prevent if possible Differences with the Indians and with one another on the Subject of Lands.

We were told by Mr. Alexander that our Proposals were communicated, and great Professions made by the Connecticut Agents of their Willingness to confer with Us, telling him if our Title was good, they would not proceed further in the Purchase, but notwithstanding these Professions, it was often told Us by People of Probity in Albany, that they were in secret Conferences with the Indians at Lydius's, and without letting Us hear any thing further from them, the two Gentlemen went out of Town

Mr. Woodbridge, who was the Schoolmaster of the Mohiccon Indians, a Nation who had formerly lived at and about Albany, and was their publick Interpreter at the Congress and obliged to stay in Town, was a Witness of every thing that passed between the Commissioners of Pennsylvania and the Indians during their Stay at Albany. ×

We arrived at Albany Monday the seventeenth Day of June, and on the nineteenth John Shickcalamy came to Town with Gachradodoa and other Chiefs of the Cayugas and some of the principal Oneidos, and acquainted Mr. Weiser that he had delivered the Governors Messages to those Five Nations at their respective Castles, and found them well inclined, and that Gachradodoa in particular was very hearty for the Proprietaries, and would serve them on this Occasion, and would confer with Mr. Weiser both as to the Extent and Terms of Sale.

He said further, that some Tuscororas were come to Town, that this Nation was influenced by the Oneidos, and would entirely govern themselves by their Advice and Example in this Matter.

The next morning Gachradodoa with some of his own People and the Oneidos and

the

Tuscororas came to visit the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, and went home with Mr. Weiser, who found it necessary to engage Gagradoda by a Reward to serve him as his ..... private Counsellor, and direct him what measures to take to engage the Indians for a ..... Sale either of the whole Province, or so much of it as to take in the Western Branch of ..... Susquehannah, called in their Language Senaase.

Afterwards there arrived a few Senecas and Two Onondagers who likewise came to visit the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, having been made acquainted by Gagradoda with the Proprietaries Proposals, and by him brought to Mr. Weiser, to whom they ..... declared their Willingness to let the Proprietaries have a Deed for all the Province, or at least up to the Western Branch.

At this time none of the Chiefs of the Mohocks were come to Town, Hendrick telling the Indians as they passed by the Upper Mohock Castle that they did not know whether they should come at all to the Treaty, or if they did, not till they heard the Treaty .... was begun. This gave the Indians Opportunity of frequently conferring together about a further Sale to Messieurs Penn, and Gagradoda reported to Mr. Weiser that they were in general well disposed except some of the Oneidos, who were for putting off a final Determination till the Arrival of the Mohocks, who had kept the Commissioners waiting more than a Week, and yet notwithstanding this affront to the Shame of that Government were invited to come and told they could not treat without them. As soon as they came, they were called by the Oneidos to the Consultations about the intended Purchase, and they advised them not to sell the whole or even up to the Western Branch. Gagradoda and Shickcalamy finding that Hendrick would have the management, and thereby could not prevail against them came and told Mr. Weiser, that the Oneidos had insisted on taking Hendrick and the Mohocks into Council to help them to treat with the Propry. of Pennsylvania; and that Hendrick was thereby got into the Management of it, and had persuaded them not to sell so much as they intended, nor further than the Alleghany Hills, and to keep all the Western Branch of Susquehannah in their own Hands, and that they could not make Head against him.

On Saturday the thirtieth of June the Governor of New York delivered to the Indians the general Speech in the Name of himself and all the Commissioners present. And on the Tuesday following the Indians made their Answer to it, Hendrick the Mohock Chief and his Brother Abraham being Speakers. At the Close of their Speeches Hendrick held up Two Belts, and acquainted the Governor and Commissioners, that the Six Nations had received those Two Belts from the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania with Proposals to treat with them for a large Part of their Country, and having agreed upon an Answer, if the Governor and Commissioners pleased, they would give it in this publick Congress. Governor Delancey desired to know of the Commissioners of Pennsylvania to what ..... Latitude this new Purchase would extend, and was told, that it was intended to take in ..... all the Western Branch, none of which was more North than Latitude forty one Degrees and thirty minutes. It was likewise mentioned to the Governor, that as all Land Treaties were ..... carried on between the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania and Indians in the most open manner, the Proposals of every intended Purchase being first sent by the Proprietaries to the ..... Council at Onondago, and Delegates appointed by the whole Body of Indians to execute the Deed and receive the Consideration Money, it would give the Commissioners of ..... Pennsylvania Pleasure and might be of Use at this time, if this Treaty might be made in the publick Congress.

Governor Delancey then asked the other Commissioners, as this matter regarded only the Province of Pennsylvania, whether it might not be better transacted between them and the Indians in their Lodgings, and they thinking it might, Hendrick was told this, and the ..... Commissioners of Pennsylvania appointed the Indians to meet them the next day at their Lodgings; and to our great Surprize when the rough Draught of this part of the Minutes was read at the next Meeting of Governor and Commissioners, it was said, that this made no Part

of

of the Business of the Congress, and ought not to be put into the Minutes; to which one of the ..... Commissioners of Pennsylvania replied, that whatever came voluntarily from the Indians and was delivered in publick was as much a Part of the Business of the Congress as any other thing mentioned by them. With respect to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania it was indifferent whether any Notice should be taken of it or no, but it appeared something singular, that at a time when the Commissioners were brought here at a great Expence to their Governments, to settle Differences that arose between New York and the Indians on account of fraudulent Proceedings in Land Treaties with the Indians, they should decline accepting the Offer made them by the Indians of having One of those Treaties made in publick, as the Indians might make this Offer on purpose to begin a Precedent, and to shew that they would chuse to treat in the most publick manner on such Occasions for the future. And now that they not only declined this reasonable Offer, but insisted that neither the Offer nor their Refusal should be put upon the Minutes, it could not but be thought they were sensible of their having done wrong, and were desirous the Publick should not know that they had done so. Notwithstanding this, it was unanimously agreed, that the Clerk should take no Notice of what Hendrick had said on this particular Occasion in the Minutes, and the Commissioners of Pennsylvania not thinking it proper to protest did acquiesce.

At a Meeting of Seventy of the Six Nations at Mr. James Stevenson's in Albany Friday the Fifth Day of July 1754.

Present

John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin Esquires Commissioners of Pennsylvania.

Conrad Weiser Esquire Interpreter.

The Commissioners of Pennsylvania spoke as follows.

Brethren,

We were glad to hear you mention in the grand Council, that the Six Nations had received several Messages from the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania expressing a Desire to treat with them for a further Purchase of Lands in their Province, and had it been agreable to the Governor and Commissioners, We should have willingly treated with You then. The ..... Governors of Pennsylvania always desire to have their Treaties with the Indians made in the most publick manner, that all the World may know what is agreed on between them. But since it has been thought proper, that We should treat with You in our Lodgings, We let You know that We have full Power from the Proprietaries to hold such a Treaty with You, and that agreeable to Messages sent to the Six Nations by the Governor, We have since our Arrival in this Town ordered it to be proposed to You by the Interpreter, that You should make a Deed for all the Lands that have been settled by White People, or are now wanted for Settlements on the West Side of the River Susquehannah, as far Westward as the Province extends, and as far North of the Kittochtinny Hills, the present Boundary between You and the Proprietaries, as You shall think proper to part with, and the larger the Tract the ..... more agreeable to Us, and the larger our Present to You will be. And as You have had this Matter for some Days under your Consideration, and have told Us You were ready to give an Answer, We now wait to hear it.

The Indians in our Presence made a Circle at one End of the Room in order to confer among themselves, and they spent more than an hour in Consultation, and were very warm and earnest in their Debates, and seemed to differ much in Opinion; Hendrick spoke a great deal, and turning round observed Mr. Weiser near them, and desired him to withdraw which he did, and after some little time they sent for him and took him into their Council

asked

asked his Opinion on divers Matters, and then returned to their Seats as at first. Hendrick spoke as follows.

Brother,

We have now the Pleasure of seeing one another together in Albany. Let Us talk together freely. We thought the Boundaries had been settled between Us and the White People. We ... received a Message from You relating to those Lands, which We shall now have some Talk ... about.

We have several times desired the Governor of Pennsylvania to remove his People from our Lands, and We understand he has done his utmost Endeavours for that Purpose, ... except using Force, which We do not desire he should. We are now therefore willing to part ... with them, and expect to be paid for them.

Brother Onas,

What We are now going to say is a matter of great moment, which We desire You to remember as long as the Sun and Moon lasts. We are willing to sell You this large Tract of Land for your People to live upon; but We desire this may be considered as Part of our Agreement, that when We are all dead and gone, your Grand Children may not say to our Grand Children, that your Forefathers sold the Land to our Forefathers, and therefore be gone off them. This is wrong. Let Us be all as Brethren as well after as before our giving ... You Deeds for Land. After We have sold our Land, We in a little time have nothing to ... shew for it; but it is not so with You, your Grand Children will get something from it as long as the World stands; our Grand Children will have no Advantage from it. They will say We were Fools for selling so much Land for so small a Matter, and curse Us: therefore let it be a Part of the present Agreement, that We shall treat one another as Brethren to the latest Generation; even after We shall not have left a foot of Land.

Gave a Belt of Six Rows.

Brother,

We desire You to give Ear to what We are now going to say: Land is grown very dear You know, and is become very valuable, We desire You would content Yourself with what We shall now grant You. We will never part with the Land at Shamokin and Wyoming, our Bones are scattered there, and on this Land there has always been a great Council Fire. We desire You will not take it amiss, that We will not part with it, for We reserve it to ... settle such of our Nations upon as shall come to Us from the Ohio, or any others who shall desire to be in our Alliance. Abundance of Indians are moving up and down, and We ... shall invite all such to come and live here, that so We may strengthen Ourselves.

Gave a Belt of Eight Rows.

Brother,

It is customary upon these Occasions when We sell Land, for both Parties to have a Copy of what is transacted. We therefore desire You would let Us have one, and We will give it to one of our young Men, who will keep it for Us.

Brother,

We have heard since We came here, that our Brother Onas and our Brother of New England have had some Disputes about the Lands of Susquehannah, a Dispute of the same kind as that of the Governor of Canada and Assinipeah, but We desire You would not differ with one another about it, for neither shall have it; We will not part with it to neither of You. We will reserve it for our Western Indians to live upon.

Brethren,

Last Year Coll. Johnson was at Onondago. He told Us Brother Onas had a handsome Present for Us; We have not heard of it since. If it be true, We desire You would let Us know, ... and give it to Us now. You see We are a poor People, and some of Us have not so much as a ... Breech Clout to cover Us.

The

The Commissioners thanked them for the kind Manner in which they had spoken to them, and said they would take it into Consideration, and return them an answer to-morrow morning. Then the Indians were treated with Wine and Punch, and dismissed.

In the afternoon Mr. Weiser informed the Commissioners, that high Dissentions arose among the Indians, and desired they would not think of meeting them in Council, nor prepare an Answer to their Speeches, nor see their Chiefs, till he could find out what would be the Issue of their Consultations, he believed some bad People had poisoned their Sentiments, and supposed it to be Lydius and Mr. Woodbridge by the means of Hendrick, with whom they were intimate. Mr. Weiser was ordered not to truckle at all, nor to go from the Proposals, but to leave the Indians to themselves, and was told it would be better to know what Influence was used and who used it over them, and which were for, and which against us, and with what Views, that at all Events it would be unbecoming the Character of the Province of Pennsylvania, which had been remarkably kind and just to the Indians, to take any ill Usage from them, and rather not to treat at all than do this. Mr. Weiser concurring in Opinion, the Indians were left to themselves, and in the Evening their Chiefs proposed to the Commissioners by Mr. Weiser, to give a Deed for all the Lands to the South of the Western Branch as far as the Allegheny Hills, but no further. This Proposal the Commissioners took unkindly of the Indians, and ordered Mr. Weiser to tell them, that it would not be accepted, and that the Commissioners supposed by their bounding their Sale by the Allegheny Hills, that they were under Contract with the French for the Ohio Lands, and desired they would explain themselves on this head, for if it was so, or that they were any way afraid to alienate those Lands, which were clearly within Mr. Penn's Grant, the Commissioners should desist all further Treaty with them.

In former Agreements for Lands in Pennsylvania, the Mohocks did not share the Consideration Money with the other Nations, as they did not lay claim to any of those Lands, and the Lands now under Consideration did really belong to the Cayugas and Oneidas, in Right of the Conquest of the Susquehannah Indians, and Mr. Weiser knowing this paid no Court to Hendrick, and expressed some Resentment at the Regard shewn to his Opinion by the other Nations, and to let Hendrick see that he would not apply to him for his Interest, he delivered the Answer of the Commissioners to him to communicate to the Six Nations in Council, and added, that the Commissioners were much displeased, and he verily believed would take no further Notice of them, especially as their limiting the Purchase by the Allegheny Mountains made them suspect some underhand Dealings ... between the Six Nations and the Governor of Canada.

Mr. Weiser was afterwards told, that Hendrick delivered the Commissioners Answer to the Six Nations in their Council truly and fully as it was told him, and then in a pathetic Speech in which he set forth the constant good Usage of the Province of Pennsylvania, and their affectionate and generous Usage of the Indians, he advised them to take the Frowns off .... from the Brow of their Brethren, and to grant them the Lands according to the Western Bounds of the Province, which he had enquired of, and was told by the Interpreter extended beyond the Ohio, and took in the Eastern Part of Lake Erie. And this Proposal of Hendricks being unanimously agreed to, Mr. Weiser was called into their Council, and informed of their Resolution not to suffer the Commissioners to depart in Anger, and then in Conference the ... Indians and He settled the Bounds of the Purchase, viz. to extend from the Kittochtinny Hills on Susquehannah River as far North as a Creek called Kayarondinagh, situate about four or five Miles South of the Mouth of the Western Branch, and from thence to go North West and by West to the Extent of the Province on the other Side of Ohio, or into Lake Erie as it should happen, the Indians and Mr. Weiser, on examining Mr. Lewis Evans's Map which they had all along consulted in their Debates, imagining, that the Waters of Juniata, which were all intended to be included within this Purchase did some of them run a good Way to the Northward of the Mouth of Kayarondinagh, agreed upon this Course as what would clear all the Waters of Juniata, and give the Proprietaries a good Extent on the River Ohio.

after

Pennsylvania. 1754.

After this and settling all other Terms amicably with the Indians, Mr. Weiser by their Order informed the Commissioners, that the Indians were ready to meet them, and .... would speak first, whereupon the Commissioners sent for them.

At a Meeting of the Indians of the Six Nations at Mr. James Stephensons in Albany Saturday the Sixth of July 1754.

Present

John Penn
Richard Peters
Isaac Norris
Benjamin Franklin } Esquires Commissioners

Many Gentlemen Commissioners for the other Provinces.

Mr. Thomas Pownal, Brother to Mr. John Pownal One of the Clerks of the Board of Trade - and several of the Inhabitants of Albany.

Mr. Conrad Weiser Interpreter.
Hendrick Speaker.

Hendrick spoke as follows.

Brother Onas.

It has given Us no small Concern to see the Frowns sitting on your Brow; Mr Weiser has assured Us: that You have taken much amiss our Proposal to bound the .... Lands by the Apalacian Mountains, and have put a Construction on this proposed Boundary very unfavourable to Us and our Intentions; You think as he tells Us, that We have some Design to favour the French Claims, and are unwilling to convey to You any Lands to the West of those Hills and on the River Ohio, because We either have disposed or intend to dispose of them to Onontio - To shew You that your Displeasure ... gives Us real Concern, and that We will not suffer it to continue longer, and that your Suspicions are without Foundation, We now tell You, that if You consent to make the Creek Kayarondinagh the Boundary of the Deed to be executed by Us on Sasquehanah, the North Line shall go to the north of the West as far as your Province extends, let it reach beyond the River Ohio and to Lake Erie wherever it will. This will convince the World and You that We have no Connection with Onontio, since those Lands from this Time will belong by our Title to King George and to Onas - make out your Deed and be not long about it.

As to Wyominh and Shamokin and the Lands contiguous thereto on Sasquehanah We reserve them for our hunting Ground, and for the Residence of such as in this time of War shall remove from among the French and chuse to live there; and We have ..... appointed John Shickallamy to take care of them - He is our Representative and Agent there, and has our Orders not to suffer either Onas's People or the New Englanders to settle any of those Lands, and if any shall presume to do it, We have directed him to complain to Onas, whether it shall be his own People or from other Provinces, and to insist on their being turnd off; and if he shall fail in this Application We will come Ourselves and turn them off. No body shall have this Land. Get your Deed ready as fast as You can.

The Commissioners expressed their Satisfaction; and having filled up the Blanks .... left in the Deed for the Boundaries, and paid down a thousand Pieces of Eight, and promised by an Endorsment on the Deed to give another thousand Pieces when the Lands West of the .... Apalacian Hills should be settled, the Indians executed the following Deed.

The

The Indians were told that the Present which Col. Johnson made mention of to them was made to their poor and distressed Brethren of the Six Nations, Shawonese, and Delawares, and Twightwees, and Owendats on the Ohio, because they were in want, having been harrassed and abused by the French; for which they gave Thanks.

Deed from the Six Nations to the Proprietaries.

To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting.

Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blandt, Johannes Satsyhowano, Johannes Kanadaxoyon, Abraham Sastaghredohy, Sachems or Chiefs of the Mohock Nation; Aneeghnaxqua, Taraghorus, Tohaghdaughquyserry, alias, Cornelius, Thachneghdachon; Sachems or Chiefs of the Oneido nation, Otsinughyada, alias, Bunt, (in behalf of himself and all the Sachems and Chiefs of the Onondago Nation) Scanuraty, Tanaghdorus, ... Tohaaiyon, Thaghradodon, Sachems or Chiefs of the Cayuga Nation, Thahichdodon, (alias Greole Younge) Taheghsatu, Tiyonenhoharaw, Sachems or Chiefs of the Seneca Nation, Suntrughwachen, Sagochsidodagon, Tohashwangarus, Crontahyon, (alias John Nixon) Titsaghton, Sachems or Chiefs of the Tuscarora Nation for and in Consideration of the Sum of Four Hundred Pounds Currant money of the Province of New York, the Receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge for and on behalf of themselves and all the Six Nations aforesaid and every of them have given granted bargained sold released and confirmed and by these Presents do and every of them doth give grant bargain sell release and confirm unto Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania their Heirs Successors and Assigns all the Lands lying within the said Province of Pennsylvania bounded and limited as follows namely Beginning at the Kittochtinny or Blue Hills on the West Bank of Susquehanah River and thence by the said River to a mile above the mouth of a certain Creek called Kayarondinhagh thence North West and by West as far as the said Province of Pensylvania extends to its Western Line or Boundary thence along the said Western Line to the South Line or Boundary of the said Province thence by the said South Line or Boundary to the South Side of the said Kittochtinny Hills thence by the South Side of the said Hills along the said Hills to the Place of Beginning Together also with all the Rivers Creeks Islands Ways Waters Water Courses Woods Underwoods Timbers and Trees Mountains Hills Mines Valleys Minerals Quarries Rights Privileges Hereditaments and Appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining and all the Right Title Interest Property Claim and Demand whatsoever of the said Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blandt, Johannes Satsyhowano, Johannes Kandahoyon, Abraham Sastaghredohy, Aneeghnaxqua, Taraghorus, Tohaghdaghquyserry, Thachneghdachon, Otsinughyada, Scanuraty, Tannaghdorus, Tohaaiyon, Thaghradodon, Thahichdodon, Taheghsatu, Tiyonenhoharaw, Suntrughwachon, Sagochsidodagon, Tohashwangarus, Crontahayon, Titsaghton or any of them or of any Person or Persons of or .... belonging to the Six Nations of Indians aforesaid To have and to hold the said Lands Rivers Creeks Waters Islands Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted and released or mentioned or intended to be hereby granted and released and every Part and Parcel thereof with their and every of their Appurtenances unto the said Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard Penn their Heirs Successors and Assigns To the only proper Use and Behoof of the said Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard Penn their Heirs Successors and Assigns forever so that neither the said Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blandt, Johannes Satsyhowano Johannes

Johannes Ghanadahyon, Abraham Sastagredohy, Aneeghnaxqua, Saraghorus, Tohaghdaghquyserry, Kachneghdachon, Otsinughyada, Scanuratay, Sannaghdorus, Tohaaiyon, Ghaghraddon, Ghahickdodon, Sahegsatu, Tiyonenhoharaw, Suntrughwachon, Sagochsidodagon, Tohashwangarus, Orontahayon, Sitsaghton, nor any others of the said Six Nations nor their or any of their Heirs Successors and Assigns shall or may hereafter claim challenge or demand any Right to the said Lands Islands Rivers Creeks Waters Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted and released but from the same shall be barred for ever by these Presents And the said Chiefs do hereby covenant and declare that the Right to the said Lands and Premises is solely in them and their Nations and in no other Nation whatsoever And it is hereby mutually covenanted and agreed by and between the said Proprietaries in behalf of themselves their Successors and all the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania forever of the one Part and the said Chiefs in behalf of themselves their Nations and their Childrens Children for ever of the other Part that notwithstanding any Sales of Lands which the Indians now make or hereafter shall make to the said Proprietaries or their Successors there shall ever subsist and mutually be preserved between both the said Parties and their Children and Childrens Children to the latest Posterity the same Love Friendship and kind Treatment that hath all along subsisted and does now subsist between them In Witness whereof the before named Sachems or Chiefs for themselves and on behalf of all the People of the Six Nations aforesd have hereunto set their Hands and Seals at the City of Albany in the Province of New York the Sixth Day of July One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Four and in the Twenty Eighth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign George the Second of Great Britain France and Ireland King.

Sealed and Delivered (the Words [West and by] wrote on an Erasure in the Tenth Line; and the Words, [thence along the said Western Line] interlined between the Tenth and Eleventh Lines, and the Words [to its] also wrote on an Erasure in the Tenth Line, being first done) and the whole distinctly read and interpreted to the Indians in the Presence of Us. Also before executing the Words [a mile above] between the Ninth and Tenth Lines, and the Words [along the said Hills] between the Tenth and Eleventh Lines, were interlined at the Instance of the Indians.

Isaac Norris
Conrad Weiser — J. Jn.o Franklin Interpreter
Samel. Weiser
Robt. Osborne
Jn.o Alexander
Ononharrayoh Paulus.
N Nicholas Peters his mark
N Lowrens Sonagaris his mark
X Moses Tegenondahe his mark
do Cornelius Teraharu his mark
X William Taraghyoras his mark
+ Zacharias Tanangheagoughta his mark

Ja Stevenson
Peter Grovenendyck
Tho.s Willing

Thomas Penn and Richard Penn — By their attorneys — John Penn — Richard Peters

Ghahickdodon, his mark, alias Groose Younge
Tahegsatu, his mark (Seneca)
Tiyonenhoharaw, his mark (Seneca)
Tanaghdorus, his mark (Cayugas)
Tohaaiyon, his mark (Cayuga)
Ghaghraddon, his mark (Cayuga)
Otsinughyada, his mark, alias the Bunt, in behalf of himself and all the Chiefs of the Onondagoes there being none others present of that nation
Scanuraty, his mark (Cayuga)
Tohashwangarus, his mark (Tuscarora)
Orontahayon, his mark, alias John Nixon (Tuscarora)
Sitsaghton, his mark (Tuscarora)
Aneeghnaxqua, his mark (Oneido)
Saraghhorus, his mark (Oneido)
Tohaghdaghquyserry, his mark, alias Cornelius (Oneido)
Kachneghdachon, his mark, alias Cornelius (Oneido)

Suntrughwachon, his mark (Tuscarora)
Sagochsidodagon, his mark
Henry (Mohawk)
Jux orora
Tanaghdorus, his mark
Tohaaiyon, his mark
Ghaghraddon, his mark
Otsinughyada, his mark, alias the Bunt
Scanuraty, his mark
Tohashwangarus, his mark
Orontahayon, his mark, alias John Nixon
Sitsaghton, his mark
Aneeghnaxqua, his mark
Saraghhorus, his mark
Tohaghdaghquyserry, his mark, alias Cornelius
Kachneghdachon, his mark, alias Cornelius

Peters, his mark
Abraham Peters, his mark (Mohawk)
Blanket
Johannes Satsyhovano, his mark (Mohawk)
Johannes Ghanadahyon, his mark (Mohawk)
Abraham Sastaghredchy, his mark (Mohawk)

Endorsment on the foregoing Deed.

Be it Remembered, that altho the Consideration Money now paid and which is the real Sum agreed for yet before the Execution of the Deed, it was further agreed by us with the Indians, that whenever the Lands over the Apalacian Hills should be settled, the Indians who signed the Deed are to receive a further Sum not exceeding the present Consideration Money.

John Penn (L.S.)

Richard Peters (L.S.)

Witnesses present.
Isaac Norris
Benj.a Franklin
Wm. Franklin
Conrad Weiser

At a Meeting of the Six Nations on Tuesday the Ninth Day of July 1754.

Present

John Penn
Richard Peters
Isaac Norris
Benjamin Franklin
} Esquires Commissioners.

Chiefs of the Six Nations.
Conrad Weiser Interpreter.
Hendrick the Mohock Chief Speaker.

The Indians were yesterday handsomely entertained at the Court House, and made several complimentary Speeches to the Governments of Maryland and Pennsylvania, the Entertainment We were told gave great offence to the Commissioners of Albany, such a thing having never been done there.

The Indians were made acquainted that in the year 1736, the Chiefs of the Six Nations then in this Province, had of their own accord, after conveying a large Quantity of Land to the Proprietaries, executed an Instrument, wherein they engaged, that they would not sell to any Persons but the Proprietaries any Lands within the Limits of their Charter from the King, and as one of the Indians who had executed that Deed was now present, viz.t Tahashurangoas, he was desired to tell the Indians the manner of its being executed; and he declared that it was done publickly and of their own voluntary Motion as a Testimony of their great Regard for the Proprietaries, who had at that very Treaty given them a generous Proof of their upright Dealing with the Indians, by paying a third time for the Susquehannah Lands, having bought them of Col. Dungan first, and then of the Susquehannah Indians, and that he saw all the Persons execute it with great Willingness. Then Hendrick and the other Indians present were desired to look at the Names of the Signers, and having done so, they acknowledged they were all principal Men among the several Tribes, and being asked to confirm and ratify that Deed, and renew their Engagements to the Proprietaries not to sell to other Persons any of their Lands, they one and all declared it to be right, and desired that a short Deed might be drawn which was accordingly done, interpreted and executed; both which follow in these Words.

Deed from the Six Nations to the Proprietors.

We the Chiefs of the Six Nations of Indians, the Onondagoes, Isanundowans or Sinnekas, Cayoogoes, Oneydas, Tuscaroroes (in behalf also of the Canyingoes or Mohacks) who have .... lately at Philadelphia by our Deed in Writing dated the eleventh Day of this Instant October, released to John Penn Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Proprietors of

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania and to their Heirs and Successors all their Right Claim and ..... Pretensions whatsoever to all the Lands on both sides the River Sasquehannah, from the Mouth thereof as far Northward or up the said River as that Ridge of Hills called the Tyoninhasachta or endless mountains, Westward to the Setting of the Sun, and ..... Eastward to the farthest Springs of the Waters running into the said River, do hereby ..... further declare, that our true Intent and meaning by the said Writing was and is to .... release, and We do hereby more expressly release to the said Proprietors their Heirs and ..... Successors forever all our Right Claim and Pretensions whatsoever to all and every all the Lands lying within the Bounds and Limits of the Government of Pennsylvania, begining Eastward on the River Delaware as far Northward as the said Ridge or Chain of endless ..... Mountains as they cross the Country of Pennsylvania from the Eastward to the West.

And further as We have made the firmest League of Friendship with our Brethren of Pennsylvania, and are become as one People with them; We do hereby promise and engage for Ourselves and our Children and their Children, that neither We nor they nor any in Authority in our Nations, will at any time bargain sell grant or by any means ... make over to any Person or Persons whatsoever, whether Whitemen or Indians, other than to the said Proprietors the Children of William Penn or to Persons by them authorized and appointed to agree for and receive the same, any Lands within the Limits of the Government of Pennsylvania, as 'tis bounded Northward with the Government of Newyork and Albany But when We are willing to dispose of any further Rights to Land within the said Limits of Pennsylvania We will dispose of them to the said William Penns Children and to no other Persons whatsoever. IN WITNESS whereof We have in behalf of all our Nations signed this further Writing being distinctly read and interpreted to Us by our Friend Conrad Weiser the twenty fifth Day of October 1736.

Witness Can. Interlineation of seventeen Words being first made between the 8th & 9th Lines)

Aniyussquasuh his mark

Auyharuniggquas his mark

Candageh his mark

Sawyienta his mark

Josam Lyndsay Gent
Josua Lowsark Esq.
Conrad Weiser Interpreter

hanutshungo his mark

Hotquantagechty his mark

galusherowano his mark

gechtachhery his mark

Tahashwangaroris his mark

Canawato his mark

Saguchsonyunt his mark

Tyuchrygerechgo his mark

Saristaquoh his mark

Shyhelung his mark

Lacan nunty his mark

Caxhaayu his mark

Tocanaungo his mark

Oscotax his mark

Sawuntga his mark

† Albany ss. Endorsment on the foregoing Deed.

Whereas the within Deed was the Day of the Date hereof produced to Us the Subscribers and interpreted to Us by Conrad Weiser in the Indian Language, and the Names and marks of the Signers of it were then carefully examined and the Execution thereof was attested to Us by Tahashwangoas One of the Signers thereof We the Subscribers in Consideration thereof and of Five Shillings to Us in Hand paid do for Ourselves our Children and their Childrens Children and in behalf of the Six Nations confirm ratify and hold good the said Deed, and do promise covenant and engage

engage to and with Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esquires the present Proprietors of the Province of Pennsylvania, that neither We nor any by our Authority shall sell grant or convey to any other than the said Proprietaries their Heirs and Assigns any Lands within the Limits of the said Province. Witness our Hands and Seals this Ninth Day of July 1754. ×

Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of Us:
Isaac Norris
ffm. Franklin
Conrad Weiser
Paulus Onohariyo
Samuel Weiser
Ja Stevenson

Aneeghnaxqua his + (L.S.)
Johaghdagh + quyserry (L.S.)
Kharochyah talky- alias Nicholas Peters (L.S.)
Abraham A Peters (L.S.)
Scarruraty O (L.S.)

Blantd (L.S.)
Henry + Peters (L.S.)
+ Bunt (L.S.)
Sagechoi + (L.S.)

Then Hendrick declared that as Times were likely to become troublesome, if the Governor wanted to know the true Disposition of the Indians or to consult on Affairs and would at any time send for him, he would be sure to come with a few of the principal Mohocks, and confer with him as Brethren should with one another.

Names of Indians at the Treaty, viz.

Mohawks of Onuneyara.

Tsistararare ..... Seth.
Onaargaghte ..... Johannes.
Soyoewese ..... Joseph.
Oghnawera ..... Daniel.
Tehanoghsagoghtha Zacharias.
Tiyeragaro ..... Zacharias.
Toquecerort ..... Jacob.
Sonoharese ..... Seth.
Canagruntro ..... Seth Junr.
Tayendaho.
Teziniaghho ..... Seth.
Taggutan ..... Reneer.
Hanowagoenra ..... Abraham.

Indians of Oghquary.

Caniadagaye ..... Johannes.
Techyenondachho ..... Moses.
Hayeghdorha ..... Laurus.
Canaghsadirho ..... Thomas.
Aquirantochquaghs ... Hendrick.
Tsiwero ..... John.
Taweyagearatt ..... Danl. Junr.
Daatherororo ..... Thomas Senr.
Aniengooto ..... Daniel Senr.
Adeho.
Tcharohhonte
Siyaditaghhio ..... Johns.
Isaach
David
Onidyoghgory ..... Nichas.

Indians of Ocquaghho

Saghistaghretsy ..... Abraham.
Gaweaghnoge ..... Brantd.
aquiraeaghse ..... Lawrence
Raheeyoghse ..... Johannes.
Abndaraghniro ..... Peter.
Soraghtroa ..... Joseph.
Towaniawe ..... Jacob.
Tchothaghraantaghho Peter.
Shawayendowano Joseph.
Orundadechha ..... Henry.
Tooghwcantharote Paulus.

Indians of Schoohary.

Nahohidarye ..... Laurus.
Tchadaghwenziagoghtho Seth.
Ziniuingino ..... John.
Anaighgoonighs ... Jacob.
Hanigaghare.
dweahaghse ..... David.
aghsunhaquetho ... Hans Hy.
Heantslaghroto ... Jacob.
Unughrageaghte Lawrence.
Haneya ..... Joseph
Decanayiyaseros Johannes.
Th'reuraghty ... Joseph
Harunghiazigoa Joseph
Arighwanientha Nicholas
Orighweryughsto ... David

Indians of Oneido.

Hanoughwageayate.
Tanughnaaqua.
Tahaghtaghqueesere.
Watstatuhha.
Heandarundie
Nyoheraxe.

Indians of Oghquary.

Sarroghioris ..... William
Hanosteahse ... Abraham
Teyonogo ..... Hendrick
Harunghiadechha Brantd
Canagaradoughqua Brantd
Tiyonidade David

Young Men

Otihaweaghte Joseph.
Saghsanowane Peter
Ohaghsageghte Jacob
aghseanthearo Lot
Taosaquatho Arent
Shateghtade Joseph
adarockquaghs Adam
Gideon.
Ayenhoony Peter

Indians of Onondago.

Oziniughiato.
Sorihowano.
Canatsiagaye.
Tehathawadoris.

Seneca Indians

Gahehdote Grote Younge.
Tageaghsado.
Sahayenquaraghto.
Toponochha.
Sorhadowane.
Wahanatseary.
Onwayense.

Cayuga Indians.

Tehageaye Fine Carse.
Haghrhadoge.
Shanegrade.
Oneachsera Gerat.

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Pennsylvania 1754.

After all was done with the Indians, Mr. Woodbridge, a Schoolmaster as before mentioned of Stockbridge employed by the Connecticut People to make the Contract with the Indians for the Sasquehannah Lands, came to Mr. Peters, and declared, that if he could be assured of Mr. Penns Title to those Lands, he would desist treating with the Indians in favour of the Connecticut People; and to satisfy him, Mr. Peters shewd him the several Deeds made to the late and present Proprietors for those Lands, and the general Deed of the Six Nations not to sell but to the Proprietaries any Lands within the Limits of the Royal Grant of the Province, and when he had perused them, he declared himself perfectly satisfied, and ..... assured Mr. Peters, that those People would give the Proprietaries no further trouble.

Col. Williams one of the Connecticut Commissioners had likewise the Perusal of the Deeds, and told Mr. Peters that the Proprietaries Title appeared to him to be good, though he was then and is now one of the principal Persons concerned in this dark affair.

We have, Sir, given You a full account of all our Transactions in the Discharge of your Orders, and We hope it will meet with your Approbation.

We are

Your Honours

most obedient

humble Servants

Philadelphia
th
5 August 1754.

John Penn
Richard Peters

The Insolence of the French Indians, and the mean Impressions they have received from the French of the English, will appear by the Demand that the Caghnawago Indians had the Assurance to make in the following Letter, for a further Reward for releasing ..... McGuinty and other Indian Traders that they had taken, as they were following their Trade, and carried Prisoners to Montreal, treating them as Slaves, and offering them to Sale as if they were Negroes to the French and under the Sight of the Governor of Canada. Mr. Reyendert Schuyler received the Letter from the Hands of a Caghnawago Indian, and sent it to Mr. Norris, who laid it before the Pennsylvania Commissioners, and they desired the Letter might remain with them; in order to be shewn to the Government, and it is ordered to be enterd in the Minutes, being as follows.

Au Sault St. Louis ce 14 Juin 1754.

Je te prie mon Frere Anagarondon de faire faire attantion a tous nos ..... Messieurs sur ceque Je n'est point ètè satisfait du Prisonnier que Je vous ai Remy ... à Aurange l'annèe derniere, mes jeunes Gens medise tous les jours quil ne sont point contant de votre façon dagir, et quà l'avenir ils n'amenneront plus les Hommes vivant puis quon ne leur donne pas seulement de quoy avoir un petit Esclave ... sauvage, tu sçais mon Frere que Je n'ai eù que quatrevingt dix Livre de notre argent, Je charge mon Jeandre de cette Commission, il t'expliquera mes Sentimens an te remettan ma Lettre, le moin quon paye un Prisonnier c'est quatre cent Livre. fait faire attantion à ceux qui ont ces sortes d'affaires entre les mains: sans ....

quoy

quoy Je ne repon point des Evenements qui pourroit arriver a Lavenir Lorsque mes jeunes Gens feron des Prisonniers.

Onontaguite
Chef du Sault St. Louis.

The following Letter and Petitions were laid before the Assembly.

A Letter to the Governor from Andrew Montour.

Winchester the 21st July 1754.

May it please your Honour.

The Half King and Monekatootha with a Body of the Six Nations from Ohio came down to the back Parts of Virginia, but would not stay in that Government, they are gone to Aucquick to settle, where the other Indians as fast as they can get off from the French are to join them; as there is a large Body of them and no Ground there to hunt to support their Families, they expect their Brothers the Pennsylvanians will provide for their Families as their men will be engaged in the War. I am"

Your Honours
most obedt. humb. St.
his
Andrew + Montour
mark

Petition of the Inhabitants of Cumberland County to the Governor.

+

To the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex upon Delaware.

The Address of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the County of Cumberland humbly Sheweth

That We are now in the most imminent Danger by a powerful Army of cruel merciless and inhuman Enemies, by whom our Lives, Liberties, Estates and all that tends to promote our Welfare are in the utmost Danger of dreadful Destruction, and this lamentable Truth is most evident from the late Defeat of the Virginia Forces, and now, as We are under your Honours Protection We would beg your immediate Notice, We living upon the Frontiers of the Province and our Enemies so close upon us, nothing doubting but these Considerations will affect your Honour, and as You have our Welfare at Heart, that You will defer nothing that may tend to hasten our Relief. And We have hereby appointed our most trusty Friends Messrs. James Burd and Philip Davies our Commissioners to deliver this our Petition to your Honour and in hopes of your due attention and Regard thereto. We are your Honours devoted Servants, and as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Cumberland 15 July 1754.

Benjamin Chambers Joseph Armstrong
Robert Chambers John Smith

Signed by several Others being in all Seventy Five Signers.

Petition

Pennsylvania. 1754.

Petition of the Inhabitants of Donegal in Lancaster-County to the Governor.

To the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex on Delaware.

The humble Petition of Us the Inhabitants of Donegal humbly sheweth, that your petitioners being duly sensible of the great Danger that our Province now is in by .... reason of such a cruel and merciless Enemy as We are now engaged with, We therefore desire to join with our Friends and Neighbours in requesting your Honour to take our distressed Condition into your Consideration, and to put Us in a Condition that We may be able to defend Ourselves, and We on our Part will join with all that We can do for the Safety of the Province, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will pray.

We empower our Trusty Friends James Galbraith Esqr and Thomas Foster Esqr to present this to your Honour in our Behalf July 26th 1754.

William Smith William Allison John Allison Barney Hughes

Signed by several others being in all Ninety Eight Signers.

Petition of the Inhabitants of Pextang, Derry and Hanover Townships in Lancaster County to the Governor.

To the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex on Delaware.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Townships of Pextang, Derry and Hanover in Lancaster County humbly sheweth, that your Petitioners being settled on and near the River Susquehannah apprehend themselves in great Danger from the French and French Indians, as it is in their Power several Times in the Year to transport themselves with Ammunition, Artillery and every Necessary down the said River. and their Conduct of late to the neighbouring Provinces encreases our Dread of a speedy Visit from them, as We are as near and convenient as the Provinces already attacked, and are less capable of defending Ourselves, as We are unprovided with arms and Ammunition and unable to purchase them - a great Number are warm and active in these Parts for the Defence of themselves and Country were they enabled so to do (altho not such a Number as would be able to withstand the Enemy) We your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honour would take our distressed Condition into Consideration, and make such Provision timeously for Us as may prevent Ourselves and Families being destroyed and ruined by such a cruel Enemy, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray. Dated July 22^d. 1754.

Thomas Forster John Harris John Carson James Galbraith

Signed by several Others being in all Fifty Seven Signers.

Memorandum. On the Seventh of August Two Members waited upon the Governor to acquaint him that the House were met and ready to receive any Thing he might have to lay before them, and desired he would be pleased to furnish them with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned. To which the Governor was pleased to say, He should be at the Council Chamber by Eleven o'Clock this morning, when he would send a message to the House to require their attendance; and that the House should be furnished with a Copy of the Writs by which they were summoned.

At the Court at Kensington
the 1st day of August 1754

Present
The Kings most Excellent Majesty
in Council

Upon reading at the Board a Report from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs dated the 18th of last Month in the Words following - viz.t

"Your Majesty having been pleased, by Your Order in "Council of the 8th of April last, to refer unto this Committee "a Representation of the Lords Commiss.rs for Trade and "Plantations upon an Address of the General Assembly of "the Province of New York to Your Majesty, relative to "the 39th Article of Your Majesty's Instructions to the "late Gov.r of that Province — The Lords of the "Committee, in Obedience to Your Majesty's said Order of "Reference, have taken the said Representation and "Address into their Consideration and do find, that the "Imputations contained in the said 39th Article of Your "Majesty's Instructions were groundless, and have been "most falsely and maliciously represented to Your Majesty "But the said Lords Commiss.rs set forth in their said "Representation "That as this Instruction was founded "upon their Report upon the State of that Province, dated "the 2d of April 1751, They think it their Duty in Justification "to themselves, and for the Support of Your Majesty's "Honour and Dignity, to observe, that the several Facts "therein contained, and which are recited in the "Instruction are verified in the clearest and strongest "Manner, by a Variety of incontestable Evidence - That

it

"it appears from the Journals of the Proceedings of the Comm
"and Assembly, that during the greatest part of Mr. Clinto
"Administration, Faction, Animosity, and Disagreement d
"subsist between the different Branches of the Legislature,
"that the Publick Peace and Tranquility of the Province
"was greatly disturbed — That it appears from the Acts
"the Assembly, particularly by those for raising Money
"Publick Service which are all of a temporary Nature
"and to which Your Majesty's Gov. was necessitated fro
"the Exigencys of the Service in time of War to give his
"Assent, that the Assembly have taken to themselves not
"only the Management and Disposal of such Publick
"Money, but have also wrested from Your Majesty's Gov
"the Nomination of all Officers of Government, the
"Custody and Direction of the Publick Military Stores,
"The Mustering and regulating of Troops raised for
"Your Majesty's Service, and in short almost every
"other executive Part of Government by which
"unwarrantable Encroachments and Invasions of
"Your Majesty's just and undoubted Authority, Order
"and good Government were Subverted, Your Majest
"Service obstructed, and the Security of the Provinc
"endangered; as therefore every Imputation of
"Misconduct in the Assembly mentioned in Your Majest
"said Instruction, is so clearly proved from their own
"Acts and Proceedings; The said Lords Commissioners
"are of Opinion that no regard ought to be had to th
"Assertion in their Address, that they have been falsely
"and maliciously represented — And the Lords of
"the Committee agreeing in Opinion with the said Lords
"Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, do therefo
"humbly Report to Your Majesty, that the said Address
"the General Assembly of the Province of New Yor
"ought to be rejected."

His Majesty this day took the said Report into Consideratio

and was pleased with the Advice of His Privy Council to Approve thereof and to Order as it is hereby Ordered that the said Address of the General Assembly of the Province of New York, Be, accordingly rejected ——— Whereof the Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Province of New York for the time being, and all others whom it may concern, are to take Notice and Govern themselves accordingly

A true Copy

W. Skeene

New York.

Copy of an Order of Council dated 6th of August 1754, approving a Report of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs, upon a Representation of the Board of Trade on an Address of the Assembly of New York, relative to the 39th Article of His Majesty's Instructions to the late Governors, and rejecting the said Address.

Rec.d 5th Sept.r 1754

Read Dec.r 5. 1754

KR 32

Pennsylvania

Indian Treaty at Albany
Between the Proprietors of
Pennsylvania
and the Six Nations
for the Sale of Land
July 6th 1754.

Recd from Mr. Penn

Read Nov.r 27

V. 143

Lo Rock

were

At a Council held at Philadelphia
Tuesday the Sixth of August 1754.

Present

The honourable James Hamilton Esquire
Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, William Logan } Esqrs

The Governor informd the Council that having a standing Instruction from the Proprietaries to take all opportunities of making another Purchase of Lands from the Six Nations, which was every Day become more urgent by the great numbers of People settling beyond the Blue Hills over Sasquehannah as all such Settlements were contrary to the stipulations of this Government with those Indians and might create differences with them, He had recommended it to Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters to try by all the means in their power to make a Purchase and the larger the better; and to facilitate this necessary work, he had by the advice of Mr. Weiser dispatched John Shickcalamy early in the Spring with a Message to the Six Nations informing them of the necessity of another Purchase by reason of the increase of their Inhabitants and their being not to be restrained from making Settlements beyond the present Boundaries; and desiring they would enter into Treaty with Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters, who were to be at Albany in the Summer, and would have full Powers for that purpose.

His Honour further said, that in consequence of this Message a Treaty had been held with those Indians and the Report thereof made to him, which he would now communicate to the Council and accordingly it was read and ordered to be entered.

The Report of John Penn and Richard Peters Esquires of their proceedings at Albany in Execution of the Governor's Orders to them to make a Purchase of Lands from the Six Nations for the use of the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania.

To the Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and the three Lower Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex upon Delaware.

May it please the Governor,

The first Indians that made their appearance were from the heads of Sasquehannah, as low down as Onexquago, and by these, who came immediately to visit the Commissioners from Pennsylvania, as indeed all the other Indians did, We were informd that a young Man from New England, one Mr. Hawley of Boston had for sometime past lived at Onexquago, with intent as was said to instruct the Indians in the Principles of the Christian Religion and to settle a Mission there under a Scotch Society; But it was told the Interpreter that he had other designs in settling there and that the People of Connecticut made use of this young Man to persuade the Indians to sell to them, the Sasquehannah Lands; and as he was an acquaintance of Mr. Ogilvie the Society's Missionary to the Mohock Indians, We desired him to enquire of this Matter, and were afterwards told, that he did not concern himself in this Affair.

Mr. William Alexander of New York was kind enough to tell us that Mr. Woodbridge, who kept an Indian School at Stockbridge in New England & two Connecticut Gentlemen

viz

viz were in Town with
intent to Negotiate a Purchase from the Indians for the
Saoquehannah Lands, lying within the Latitude of the
Connecticut Charter, in favour of some private Persons of
that Government, and had with them a thousand Peices of
Eight and were busy conferring with the Indians on this
Subject at the House and thro' the means of M.r Lydius.-
This Lydius is an Inhabitant of Albany, known to have —
abjured the Protestant Religion in Canada, and to be concerned
in a Clandestine Trade with the Caghnawaga, or Feench
Praying Indians and suspected to carry on a secret corre=
=spondence with the Government of Canada, and as M.r
Alexander informed us might not only have Lucrative Views
in the management of this Purchase, but a design to sow
Dissentions as well between the Indian Nations as between
the several Colonies whose Lands lay within the Latitude
of the Connecticut Charter; and at the same time M.r Alexander
kindly offered his Services to us, telling us, that he was —
acquainted with the two Connecticut Gentlemen, and believed
it might not be amiss for us and them to come together - This
proposal was readily embraced by us, and M.r Alexander was
told that the Proprietaries had good Deeds for all the Saaque=
=hannah Lands as well as Solemn Treaties and Agreements
with the Indians, whereby they engaged to sell no Lands
within the Bounds of the Pennsylvania Charter to any
but the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, and he was desired
to mention this to the Connecticut Agents, and that we should
be glad to make them sensible of the goodness of the Title of
the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, in order to prevent if
possible Differences with the Indians and with one another
on the Subject of Lands.

We were told by M.r Alexander that our Proposals were
communicated, and great professions made by the Connecticut
Agents of their willingness to confer with us, telling him of

our

our Title was good, they would not proceed further in the Purchase, but notwithstanding these professions, it was often told us by People of Probity in Albany, that they were in secret conferences with the Indians at Lydius's, and without letting us hear any thing further from them the two Gentlemen went out of Town.

67

M.r Woodbridge, who was the Schoolmaster of the Mohiccon Indians, a Nation who had formerly lived at and about Albany, and was their Publick Interpreter at the Congress and obliged to stay in Town, was a Witness of every thing that passed between the Commissioners of Pennsylvania and the Indians during their stay at Albany.

We arrived at Albany Monday the seventeenth Day of June, and on the Nineteenth John Shickallamy came to Town with Gachradoda and other Chiefs of the Cayugas and some of the principal Oneidoes, and acquainted M.r Weiser that he had delivered the Governors Messages to those two Nations at their respective Castles, and found them well inclined and that Gachradoda in particular was very hearty for the Proprietaries, and would serve them on this occasion, and would confer with M.r Weiser both as to the extent and Terms of Sale.

He said further, that some Tuscaroras were come to Town, that this Nation was influenc'd by the Oneidos, and would entirely govern themselves by their advice and example in this Matter.

The next Morning Gachradoda with some of his own People and the Oneidos and the Tuscororas came to visit the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, and went home with M.r Weiser, who found it necessary to engage Gachradoda by a reward to serve him as his private Councellor, and direct him what measures to take to engage the Indians for a Sale either of the whole Province, or so much of it as to take in the Western Branch of Susquehannah called in their Language Tenaxde.

Afterwards there arrived a few Senecas and two Onondagars who likewise came to visit the Commissioners of Pennsylvania,

having

having been made acquainted by Gachradodo with the Proprietaries proposals, and by him brought to M.r Weiser, to whom they declared their willingness to let the Proprietaries have a Deed for all the Province, or at least up to the Western Branch.

78 At this time none of the Chiefs of the Mohawks were come to Town, Hendrick telling the Indians as they passed by the upper Mohock Castle that they did not know whether they should come at all to the Treaty, or if they did, not 'til they heard the Treaty was begun— This gave the Indians — opportunity of frequently conferring together about a further Sale to the Proprietaries Penn, and Gachradodo reported to M.r Weiser that they were in General well disposed except some of the Oneidos who were for putting off a final determination 'til the arrival of the Mohocks, who had kept the Commissioners waiting more than a Week, and yet notwithstanding this affront to the Shame of that Government were invited to come and told they could not treat without them— As soon as they came they were called by the Oneidos to the Consultations about the intended Purchase, & they advised them not to sell the whole or even up to the Western Branch— Gachradodo & Shick Calamy finding that Hendrick would have the Management, and thereby could not prevail against them, came and told M.r Weiser, that the Oneidos had insisted on taking Hendrick & the Mohocks into Council to help them to treat with the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, and that Hendrick was thereby got into the management of it, and had persuaded them not to sell so much as they intended, nor further than the Alleghany Hills, and to keep all the Western Branch of Saoquehannah in their own hands and that they could not make head against him.

On Saturday the Thirtieth of June the Governor of New York delivered to the Indians the General Speech in the name of himself and all the Commissioners present. And on Tuesday following the Indians made their answer to it. Hendrick, the Mohock Chief and his Brother Abraham

being

not
it.

being Speakers. At the close of their Speeches Hendrick held 5.
up two Belts, and acquainted the Governor & Commissioners 68
that the Six Nations had received those two Belts from the
Proprietaries of Pennsylvania with proposals to treat with them
for a large part of their Country, and having agreed upon an
answer, if the Governor and Commissioners pleased, they would
give it in this publick Congress. Governor Delancy desired
to know of the Commissioners of Pennsylvania to what Latitude
this new purchase would extend, and was told, that it was intended
to take in all the Western Branch, none of which was more
North than Latitude forty one degrees and thirty Minutes.
It was likewise mentioned to the Governor, that as all Land
Treaties were carried on between the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania
and Indians in the most open manner, the proposals of every
intended purchase being first sent by the Proprietaries to the
Council at Onondago, and Delegates appointed by the whole
Body of Indians to execute the Deed and receive the Consideration
Money, it would give the Commissioners of Pennsylvania pleasure
and might be of use at this time, if this Treaty might be made
in the Publick Congress.

Governor Delancy then asked the other Commissioners,
as this Matter only regarded the Province of Pennsylvania, whether
it might not be better transacted between them and the Indians
in their Lodgings, and they thinking it might, Hendrick was told
this, and the Commissioners of Pennsylvania appointed the Indians
to meet them the next Day at their Lodgings; And to our great
surprize when the rough Draft of this part of the Minutes was
read at the next Meeting of Governor and Commissioners, it was
said, that this made no part of the Business of the Congress, &
ought not to be put into the Minutes; to which one of the
Commissioners of Pennsylvania replied that whatever came voluntarily
from the Indians and was delivered in Publick was as much a part
of the Business of the Congress as any other thing mentioned by them,
with respect to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania it was indifferent
whether any notice should be taken of it or no. but it appeared

something

something singular that at a time when the Commissioners were
83 brought there at a great Expence to their Governments, to settle
differences that arose between New York and the Indians
on account of fraudulent proceedings in Land Treaties with
the Indians they should decline accepting the offer made
them by the Indians of having one of those Treaties made
in publick, as the Indians might make this offer on purpose
to begin a precedent, and to shew that they would choose to
treat in the most publick manner on such occasions for the
future. And now that they not only declined this reasonable
offer, but insisted that neither the offer nor their refusal
should be put upon the Minutes, it could not but be thought
they were sensible of their having done wrong, and were
desirous the publick should not know that they had done
so. notwithstanding ~~this~~ this, it was unanimously agreed,
that the Clerk should take no notice of what Hendrick had
said on this particular occasion in the Minutes, & the
Commissioners of Pennsylvania not thinking it proper to
protest did acquiesce.

At a Meeting of Seventy of the Six Nations
at Mr. James Stevenson's in Albany Friday the
5th Day of July 1754.

Present

John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and
Benjamin Franklin Esquires Commissioners of
Pennsylvania.

Conrad Weiser Esquire Interpreter.

The Commissioners of Pennsylvania spoke as follows

Brethren;

We were glad to hear you mention in the grand Council,
that the Six Nations had received several Messages from the
Proprietaries of Pennsylvania expressing a desire to treat
with

There ha
not take
it to ser

with them for a further Purchase of Lands in their Province, and had it been agreable to the Governor and Commissioners, we should have willingly treated with you then. — The Governors of Pennsylvania always desire to have their Treatys with the Indians made in the most publick manner, that all the World may know what is agreed on between them. But since it has been thought proper, that we should treat with you in our Lodgings; We let you know that we have full power from the Proprietaries to hold such a Treaty with you, and that agreable to Messages sent to the Six Nations by the Governor, we have since our Arrival in this Town ordered it to be proposed to you by the Interpreter, that you should make a Deed for all the Lands that have been settled by white People, or are now wanted for Settlements, on the West side of the River Susquehannah, as far Westward as the Province extends, and as far North of the Kittochtinny Hills, the present Boundary between You and the Proprietaries, as you shall think proper to part with, and the larger the Tract the more agreable to us, and the larger our Present to you will be. And as you have had this Matter some Days under your Consideration, and have told us you were ready to give an answer, We now wait to hear it.

The Indians in our presence made a circle at one end of the Room in order to confer among themselves, and they spent more than an hour in consultation, & were very warm and earnest in their Debates, and seemed to differ much in opinion; Hendrick spoke a great deal, and turning round observed M.r Weiser near them, and desired him to withdraw which he did, and after some little time they sent for him and took him into their Council asked his opinion on divers Matters and then returnd to their Seats as at first.

Hendrick spoke as follows.

Brother,

We have now the pleasure of seeing one another together in Albany. Let us talk together freely. We thought the Boundarys

had

had been settled between us and the White People. We received a Message from you relating to those Lands, which we shall now have some talk about.

We have several times desired the Governor of Pennsylvania to remove his People from our Lands, and we understand he has done his utmost endeavours for that purpose except using Force, which we do not desire he should. We are now therefore willing to part with them and expect to be paid for them.

Brother Onas,

What we are now going to say is a Matter of great moment, which we desire you to remember as long as the Sun & Moon lasts. We are willing to sell you this large Tract of Land for your People to live upon; but we desire this may be considered as part of our Agreement; that when we are all Dead and gone, your Grand Children may not say to our Grand Children, that your Forefathers sold the Land to our Forefathers, and therefore begone off them. This is wrong. Let us, all be as Brethren as well after as before our giving you Deeds for Land. After we have sold our Land, we in a little time have nothing to shew for it, but it is not so with you, Your Grand Children will get something from it as long as the World stands; our Grand Children will have no advantage from it. They will say we were Fools for selling so much Land for so small a Matter. & curse us: Therefore let it be a part of the present Agreement, that we shall treat one another as Brethren to the latest Generation, even after we shall not have left a foot of Land.

Gave a Belt of Six Rows

Brother

We desire you to give Ear to what we are now going to say; Land is grown very dear you know, and is become very valuable

we

we desire you would content yourself with what we shall now grant you. We will never part with the Land at Shamokin & Wyomink, our Bones are scattered there, and on this Land there has always been a great Council fire. We desire you will not take it amiss, that we will not part with it, for we reserve it to settle such of our Nations upon, as shall come to us from the Ohio, or any others who shall desire to be in our Alliance. Abundance of Indians are moving up and down, & we shall Invite all such to come and live here, that so we may Strengthen ourselves.

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Gave a Belt of eight Rows.

Brother,

It is customary upon these occasions when we sell Land, for both Parties to have a copy of what is transacted. We therefore desire you will let us have one; and we will give it to one of our young Men, who will keep it for us.

Brother,

We have heard since we came here, that our Brother Onas and our Brother of New England have had some Disputes about the Lands of Sasquehannah, a Dispute of the same kind as of that of the Governor of Canada & Aysaragoah, but we desire you would not differ with one another about it; for neither shall have it; We will not part with it to neither of you — We will reserve it for our Western Indians to Live upon.

Brethren,

Last Year Col.° Johnson was at Onondago. He told us Brother Onas had a handsome Present for us; We have not heard of it since. If it be true, we desire you would let us know, and give it to us now; You see we are a poor People, & some of us have not so much as a breech Clout to cover us.

The

The Commissioners thanked them for the kind manner in which they had spoken to them, and said they would take it into Consideration, and return them an answer to morrow morning. Then the Indians were treated with Wine and Punch, and dismissed.

In the Afternoon Mr. Weiser informed the Commiss.rs that high dissentions arose among the Indians, and desired they would not think of meeting them in Council nor prepare an answer to their Speeches, nor see their Chiefs, 'till he could find out what would be the issue of their Consultations, he believed some bad People had poisoned their Sentiments, and supposed it to be Lydius and Mr. Woodbridge by the means of Hendrick with whom they were intimate. Mr. Weiser was ordered not to truckle at all, nor go from the proposals, but to leave the Indians to themselves, and was told it would be better to know what influence was used and who used it over them, and which were for, and which against us, and with what views, and that at all Events it would be unbecoming the Character of the Province of Pennsylvania, which had been remarkably kind and just to the Indians, to take any ill usage from them, and rather not to treat at all than do this. Mr. Weiser concurring in opinion, the Indians were left to themselves, and in the Evening their Chiefs proposed to the Commissioners by Mr. Weiser, to give a Deed for all the Lands to the South of the Western Branch as far as the Alleghany Hills, but no further. This proposal the Commissioners took unkindly of the Indians, and ordered Mr. Weiser to tell them, That it would not be accepted, and that the Commissioners supposed by their bounding their Sale by the Alleghany Hills, that they were under Contracts with the French for the Ohio Lands, and desired they would explain themselves on this head, for if it was so, or that they

they were any way afraid to alienate those Lands, which were clearly within M.r Penn's Grant, the Commissioners should desist all further Treaty with them. 71

In former Agreements for Lands in Pennsylvania, the Mohocks did not share the Consideration Money with the other Nations, as they did not lay Claim to any of those Lands, and the Lands now under consideration did really belong to the Cayugas and Oneidos, in Right of the Conquest of the Sasquehannah Indians, and M.r Weiser knowing this paid no Court to Hendrick, and expressed some Resentment at the Regard shewn to his opinion by the other Nations, and to let Hendrick see that he would not apply to him for his Interest delivered the answer of the Commissioners to him to communicate to the Six Nations in Council, and added that the Commissioners were much displeased, and he verily believed would take no further notice of them, especially as their limitting the Purchase by the Alleghany Mountains made them suspect some underhand Dealings between the Six Nations and the Governor of Canada.

M.r Weiser was afterwards told, that Hendrick deliver'd the Commissioners answer to the Six Nations in their Council truly and fully as it was told him, and then in a pathetic Speech in which he set forth the constant good usage of the Province of Pennsylvania, and their affectionate and generous usage of the Indians he advised them to take the frowns off from the Brow of their Brethren, and to grant them the Lands according to the Western Bounds of their Province, which he had enquired of; and was told by the Interpreter extended beyond the Ohio, and took in the Eastern part of Lake Erie. And this proposal of Hendrick's being unanimously agreed to, M.r Weiser was called into their Council and informed of their Resolution not to suffer the Commissioners to depart in Anger, and then in Conferences the Indians & he settled the Bounds of the Purchase viz.t to extend from the Kittochtinny Hills on Sasquehannah River as far North

Onondarego
N.t Castle

North as a Creek called Kayarondinagh, Situate about
four five Miles South of the Mouth of the Western Branch,
and from thence to go North West and by West to the extent
of the Province on the other side of Ohio, or into Lake Erie
as it should happen, the Indians and M.r Weiser on
examining M.r Lewis Evans's Map which they had all
along consulted in their Debates, imagining that the Waters
of Juniata, which were all intended to be included within
this Purchase did some of them run a good way to the
Northward of the Mouth of Kayarondinagh, Agreed upon
this Course as what would clear all the Waters of Juniata,
and give the Proprietaries a good extent on the River
Ohio.

After this and settling all other Terms amicably
with the Indians M.r Weiser by their order informed
the Commissioners, that the Indians were ready to meet
them and would speak first; whereupon the Commissioners
sent for them.

At a Meeting of the Indians of the Six
Nations at M.r James Stevenson's in Albany
Saturday the Sixth of July 1754.

Present

John Penn, Isaac Norris, Richard Peters, Benjamin Franklin } Esq.rs Commiss.rs

Many Gentlemen Commiss.rs for the other Provinces.
M.r Thomas Pownal, Brother to M.r John Pownal,
one of the Clerks of the Board of Trade, & several
of the Inhabitants of Albany.

M.r Conrad Weiser, Interpreter.

Hendrick Speaker,
Hendrick spoke as follows,

Brother

Brother Onas,

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It has given us no small concern to see the Frowns sitting on your Brow, M.r Weiser has assured us, that you have taken much amiss our proposal to bound the Lands by the Apalatican Mountains, and have put a construction on this proposed Boundary very unfavourably to us and our Intentions; You think as he tells us, that we have some Design to favour the French Claims, and are unwilling to convey to you any Lands to the West of those Hills and on the River Ohio, because we either have disposed or intend to dispose of them to Onontio – To shew you that your displeasure gives us real concern and that we will not suffer it to continue longer, and that your Suspicions are without foundation, We now tell You, that if you consent to make the Creek Kayarondinagh the Boundary of the Deed to be executed by us on Sasquehannah the North Line shall go to the North of the West as far as your Province extends let it reach beyond the River Ohio and to Lake Erie wherever it will. This will convince the World and You that we have no connection with Onontio, Since those Lands from this time will belong by our Title to King George & to Onas – make out your Deed and be not long about it.

As to Wyomink and Shamokin and the Land contiguous thereto on Sasquehanna we reserve them for our hunting Ground, and for the residence of such as in this time of War shall remove from among the French and chuse to Live there, And we have appointed John Shick Calamy to take care of them – He is our Representative and Agent there, and has our Orders not to suffer either Onas's People or the New Englanders to settle any of those Lands, and if any shall presume to do it, We have directed him to complain to Onas, whether it shall be his own People or from other Provinces, and to insist on their being turn'd off, and if he shall fail in this application we will come ourselves and turn them off. Nobody shall have this Land. Get your Deed

ready

ready as fast as you can.

The Commissioners expressed their Satisfaction; and having filled up the Blanks left in the Deed for the Boundaries, & paid down a Thousand Pieces of Eight, and promised by an Endorsement on the Deed to give another thousand Pieces of Eight when the Lands West of the Apalacian Hills should be settled; the Indians executed the following Deed.

The Indians were told that the Present which Col.° Johnson made mention of to them was made to their poor and distressed Brethren of the Six Nations, Shawonese and Delawares and Twightwees and Owindats on the Ohio, because they were in want, having been harrassed and abused by the French; for which they gave thanks.

Deed from the Six Nations to the Proprietaries.

To all to whom these Presents shall come ——
Greeting Henry Peters, Abraham Peters, Blandt, Johannes Satsyhowano, Johannes Kanadahoyon, Abraham Satogredohy, Sachems or Chiefs of the Mohock Nation, Aneughnaxqua, Taraghorus, Tohaghdaaghquisery, Alias Cornelius, Kachneghdaekon, Sachems or Chiefs of the Oneido Nation, Otsinueghyada, alias Bunt (in behalf of himself and all the Sachems & Chiefs of the Onondago Nation) Scanuraty, Tanaghdorus, Tokaayon, Kaghra=dodon, Sachems or Chiefs of the Cayuga Nation, Kahick=dodon (alias Groote Younge) Takeghsata Tigonenhokaraw, Sachems or Chiefs of the Seneca Nation, Suntrughwacken, Sayochsidodagon, Tohashwanyarus, Orontakayon, (alias John Nixon) Tiotsaghton, Sachems or Chiefs of the Tuscarora Nation, for and in Consideration of the Sum of Four hundred Pounds Current Money of the Province of New York, the Receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge for & on behalf of themselves & all the Six Nations aforesaid & every of them Have given granted bargained sold released and confirmed & by these Presents Do and every of them Both give grant

bargain

and

& of Six Rows

bargain sell release and confirm unto Thomas Penn and
Richard Penn Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania
their Heirs Successors and Assigns All the Lands lying
within the said Province of Pennsylvania bounded & limitted
as follows namely Beginning at the Kittochtinny or
Blue Hills on the West Bank of Sasquehanna River & thence
by the said River to a Mile above the Mouth of a certain Creek
called Kayaroninhagh thence North West and by West as
far as the said Province of Pennsylvania extends to its
Western Line or Boundary, thence along the said Western
Line to the South Line or Boundary of the said Province,
thence by the South Line or Boundary to the South side of
the said Hills along the said Hills to the place of Begenning
Together also with all the Rivers, Creeks, Islands Ways
Waters Water Courses Woods Underwoods Timber & Trees
Mountains Hills Mines Valleys Minerals Quarries Rights
Privileges Hereditaments and Appurtenances whatsoever
thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining And all the Right
Title Interest Property Claim and Demand whatsoever of the
said Henry alias Peters Abraham Peters, Blandt, Johannes Satsyhowano, Johannes
Kanadakoyon, Abraham Sastagyedohy, Aneughnaxqua, Taraghorus,
Johaghdaghqueserry, Kachneghdachon, Otsinughyada, Scanuraty,
Tanaghdorus, Johaauyon, Kaghradodon, Kakeikdodon, Jakegh=
=satus Tiyonenkokaraw, Suntrughwackon, Sagochseidodayon,
Johashwangarus, Orontakayon, Tistsaghton, or any of them
or of any Person or Persons of or belonging to the Six Nations
of Indians aforesaid To have and to hold the said Lands,
Rivers, Creeks, Waters Islands, Hereditaments & premisses
hereby granted and released or mentioned or intended to be hereby
granted & released and every part and parcel thereof with
their and every of their Appurtenances unto the said Proprietaries
Thomas Penn and Richard Penn their Heirs Successors and
Assigns To the only proper use and behoof of the said Proprietaries
Thomas Penn and Richard Penn their Heirs Successors and
Assigns for ever So that neither the said Henry Peters, Abraham Peters,
Blandt,

Onontharigyk Paulus
Nicholas Peters, his mk

Blandt, Johannes Satzyhowans, Johannes Kanadakoyon,
Abraham Sastayredohy, Aneughnarqua, Taraghorus, ——
Johaghdaghquyserry, Kachneghdachon, Otsmugheyada, —
Scanaruty, Tannaghdorus, Tokaunyon, Kayhradodon, —
Kahickdodon, Takeysatu, Teyonenhokarawe, Suntrughwachon,
Sagochoidodagon, Johashwangarus, Oronhakayon, Sitsaghton,
nor any others of the said Six Nations, nor their or any of
their Heirs Successors and Assigns shall or may hereafter
claim challenge or demand any right to the said Lands,
Islands Rivers Creeks Waters Hereditaments and
Premisses hereby granted and released But from the same
shall be barred forever by these Presents And the said Chiefs
Do hereby Covenant and Declare that the Right to the said
Lands and Premisses is solely in them and their Nations
and in no other Nation whatsoever And it is hereby mutually
covenanted and agreed by and between the said Proprietaries
in behalf of themselves their Successors and all the Inhabitants
of Pennsylvania forever of the one part and the said Chiefs
in behalf of themselves their Nations and their Children's
Children forever of the other part that notwithstanding any
Sales of Lands which the Indeans now make or hereafter
shall make to the said Proprietaries or their Successors
there shall ever subsist and mutually be preserved between
both the said Parties and their Children & Childrens ——
Children to the latest posterity the same Love Friendship
and kind Treatment that hath all along subsisted & does
now subsist between them In Witness whereof the before
named Sachems or Chiefs for themselves and on behalf of all
the People of the Six Nations aforesaid have hereunto set
their hands & Seals at the City of Albany in the Province
of New York the Sixth Day of July One thousand seven
hundred and fifty four and in the Twenty eighth

Year

Onghaew

17.

Year of the Reign of our Sovereign George the Second of Great Britain France and Ireland King.

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Sealed and Delivered
(the words [West and by] wrote
on an Erazure in the Tenth Line,
and the Words [thence along
the said Western Line] interlined
between the tenth & eleventh Lines,
and the words [to its] also wrote
on an Erazure in the Tenth
Line being first done) and the
whole distinctly read and
Interpreted to the Indians in
the presence of us. Also before
executing the words [a Mile
above] between the Ninth &
Tenth Lines and the words
[along the said Hills] between
the Tenth and Eleventh Lines,
were interlined at the Instance
of the Indians.

Thomas Penn (L.S)
and
Richard Penn (L.S)
by their Attornies
John Penn (L.S)
Richard Peters (L.S)

Isaac Norris
William Franklyn
Conrad Weiser, Interpreter.
Sam.l Weiser
Ja. Stevenson
Robt Osborne
Peter Graeme[illegible]dyck
Wm Alexander
Tho.s Willing
Onontharigoh Paulus
N Nicholas Peters, his Mark
N Lowrens Sonagares, his Mark
J Moses Tegunondake, his Mark
do Cornelius Serahaew, his Mark
X William Tarachyoras, his Mark
X Zacharias Tanangheagoughta, his Mark

Kahuikdodon his + Mark als Groote Young (LS)

Tahegharatu his + Mark (LS)
(Seneca)

Tiyonenhokaraw his X mark (LS)
(Seneca)

Tanaghdorus his T Mark (LS)
(Cayugas)

Tohaaeyon his + Mark (LS)
(Cayuga)

Kaghradodon his + Mark (LS)
(Cayuga)

Otsineghyada his X mark al.s the Bunt (LS)
on behalf of himself and all the Chiefs of the Onondagoes there being none others present of that Nation.

Scanuraty his X Mark (LS)
(Cayuga)

Tohashwangarus his + Mark (LS)
Tuscarora

Orontahayon the his mark X al.s John Nixon (LS)
(Tuscarora)

Tytsaghton his # mark (LS)
(Tuscarora)

Aneughnarqua his mark (LS)
(Oneido)

Tasaghkorius his R Mark
(Oneido)

Tohayhdaghquyserry his + mark al.s Cornelius (LS)
(Oneido)

Kackneghdaghon his mark + al.s Cornelius (LS)
(Oneido)

Tunteughwarkon his + mark (LS)
(Tuscarora)

Sagochrododagon his T mark (LS)

Henry his H. Peters (LS)
mark
Mohock

Abraham his A Peters (LS)
mark
Mohock

Blandt (LS)
Mohock

Johannes his Q Satsyhowano (LS)
mark
(Mohock)

Johannes his X Kanadahoyon (LS)
mark
Mohock

Abraham his A Sgostaghredchy (LS)
mark
(Mohock)

19.

Endorsement on the foregoing Deed.

Be it remembered that altho' the Consideration Money now paid and which is the real Sum agreed for yet before the Execution of the Deed, ~~yet before the Execution of the Deed~~, it was further agreed by us with the Indians that whenever the Lands over the Apalaccian Hills should be settled, the Indians who signed the Deeds are to receive a further Sum not exceeding the present Consideration Money.

John Penn (L.D)
Richard Peters (L.D)

Witnesses present
Isaac Norris
Benj.a Franklin
Wm Franklin
Conrad Weiser

At a Meeting of the Six Nations on Tuesday the ninth Day of July 1755.

Present

John Penn, Isaac Norres, Richard Peters, Benjamin Franklin } Esq.rs Commiss.rs;

Chiefs of the Six Nations
Conrad Weiser Interpreter
Hendrick the Mohock Chief, Speaker.

The Indians were yesterday handsomely entertain'd at the Court House, and made several Complimentary Speeches to the Governments of Maryland and Pennsylvania, the Entertainment we were told gave great offence to the Commissioners of Albany, such a thing having never been done there.

The Indians were made acquainted that in the year 1736 the Chiefs of the Six Nations, then in this Province, had of their own accord, after conveying a large Quantity of Land to the Proprietaries, executed an Instrument, wherein they engaged, that they would

not

not sell to any Person but the Proprietaries any Lands within Limits of their Charter from the King, and as one of the Indians who had executed that Deed was now present, viz. Tohashwangoas, he was desired to tell the Indians the manner of it's being executed; and he declared that it was done publickly and of their own voluntary motion as a Testimony of their great regard for the Proprietaries, who had at that very treaty given them a generous proof of their upright dealing with the Indians by paying a third time for the Sasquehannah Lands, having bought them of Col.° Dungan first and then of the Sasquehannah Indians and that he saw all the Persons execute it with great willingness. Then Hendrick and the other Indians present were desired to look at the Names of the Signers, and having done so, they acknowledged they were all principal Men among the several Tribes, and being asked to confirm & ratify that Deed, and renew their Engagements to the Proprietaries not to sell to other Persons any of their Lands, they one and all declared it to be right, and desired that a short Deed might be drawn, which was accordingly done, interpreted and executed; both which follow in these words.

Deed from the Six Nations to the Proprietors

We the Chiefs of the Six Nations of Indians, the Onondagoes Tsanundowans or Sinnekas, Cayugas, Oneidos, Tuscaroras (in behalf also of the Canyengoes or Mohocks) who have lately at Philadelphia by our Deed in writing dated the 11.th Day of this Instant October, released to John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Proprietors of Pennsylvania and to their Heirs and Successors all their Right Claim and Pretensions whatsoever to all the Lands on both sides the River Sasquehannah from the Mouth

thereof

thereof as far Northward or up the said River as that Ridge
of Hills called the Tyoninhasaehta or Endless Mountains,
Westward to the Setting of the Sun and Eastward to the
farthest Springs of the Waters running into the said River
do hereby further declare that our true intent and meaning
by the said Writing was and is to release and we do hereby more
expressly release to the said Proprietors their Heirs and
Successors forever all our right claim and pretensions
whatsoever to all and every All the Lands lying within the
bounds and Limits of the Government of Pennsylvania
Beginning Eastward on the River Delaware as far Northward
as the said Ridge or Chain of Endless Mountains as they cross
the Country of Pennsylvania from the Eastward to the West,

And further as we have made the firmest League of
Friendship with our Brethren of Pennsylvania and are
become as one People with them We do hereby promise and
engage for ourselves and our Children and their Children that
neither we nor they nor any in Authority in our Nations will
at any time bargain sell grant or by any means make over
to any Person or Persons whatsoever, whether white men or
Indians other than to the said Proprietors the Children of
William Penn or to Persons by them authorized & appointed
to agree for and receive the same any Lands within the Limits
of the Government of Pennsylvania, as this bounded Northward
with the Government of New York and Albany But when
we are willing to dispose of any further Rights to Lands within
the said Limits of Pennsylvania we will dispose of them to
the said William Penns' Children and to no other Persons
whatsoever In Witness whereof we have in behalf of
all our Nations signed this further Writing being distinctly
read and Interpreted to us by our Friend Conrad Weiser

the

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the Twenty fifth Day of October 1736.

Witness / an interlineation of
Seventeen words being first made
between the 8.th & 9.th Lines /

Anyusquasuch his mark
Anyharunyuas his mark
Candayeh his mark
hawyeenta his mark
Jo.s Jun.r a Ind.n Frq.r
Jo.s Jun.r Lousant Frq.r
Conrad Weiser Interpreter

hanuchhungo his mark (L.S.)
Hotquantayechty his mark (L.S.)
Galuskerowano his 2 mark (L.S.)
Gechtachhery his mark (L.S.)
Tohashwangaroreo his mark (L.S.)
Canawato his mark (L.S.)
Saguchsongant his mark (L.S.)
Tyuchryguruchgo his mark

Sanistraquoh his mark (L.S.)
Shykelamy (L.S.)
Lacan his nunty mark (L.S.)
Caxhaqui his mark (L.S.)
Tocunaungo his mark (L.S.)
Oscotax his mark (L.S.)
Sawantya his mark (L.S.)

Endorsement

Endorsement on the foregoing Deed.

Albany Ss.

Whereas the within Deed was the Day of the Date hereof produced to us the Subscribers and interpreted to us by Conrad Weiser in the Indian Language and the Names and Marks of the Signers of it were then carefully examined and the execution thereof was attested to us by Tahashwangoas one of the Signers thereof We the ~~Signers~~ Subscribing in Consideration thereof and of five Shillings to us in hand paid do for ourselves our Children and their Childrens Children and in behalf of the Six Nations confirm ratify and hold good the said Deed and do promise covenant and engage to and with Thomas Penn & Richard Penn Esqrs the present Proprietors of the Province of Pennsylvania that neither we nor any by our Authority shall sell grant or convey to any other than the said Proprietaries their Heirs and Assigns any Lands within the Limits of the said Province Witness our Hands and Seals this Ninth Day of July 1754.

Sealed and Delivered in the presence of us

Isaac Norris
Wm Franklin
Conrad Weiser
Paulus Onontarieyo
Samuel Weiser
Ja Stevenson

Blandt (L.S)
Henry + P. Peters (L.S)
+ Bunt (L.S)
Sagechsi + (L.S)
Aneughnaxqua + (L.S)
Tohayhdagh x quessany (L.S)
Karochyaektatty alias Nicholas Peters (L.S)
Abraham Peters A (L.S)
Scarunaty O (L.S)

Then Hendrick declared that as times were likely to become troublesome, if the Governor wanted to know the true disposition of the Indians or to consult on Affairs and would at any time send for him, he would be sure to come with a few of the principal Mohocks and confer with him as Brethren should with one another.

Names.

Names of Indians at the Treaty, viz,

Mohawks of Onunwara

Tsistararé	Seth
Onnayaghte	Johannes
Soyouwese	Joseph
Oghnawera	Daniel
Tehanoghsagoghtha	Zacharias
Teyerarago	Zacharias
Toqueront	Jacob
Sonoharess	Seth
Canagunko	Seth jun.
Tayendaho	
Terinieghko	Seth
Tayguhan	Renier
Kanowagoenna	Abraham

Indians of Oghquary

Canadagaye	Johannes
Teckyenondaekho	Moses
Kayeghdorha	Laurus
Canagsaderho	Thomas
Aquirantockquagho	Hendrick
Tsiwero	John
Tawyyagearatt	Dan. Jun.
Daatherororo	Thomas Sen.
Oniengooto	Daniel Sen.
Adeho	
Tekarohhonte	
Siyaditaghko	Johns
Isaack	
David	
Onidyoghgory	Nichas

Indians of Oeguaghko

Sagtayhretsy	Abraham
Gaweaghnage	Brantz
Aeyneraeaghse	Lawrence
Rahenyoghse	Johannes
Alndaeaghnens	Piter
Soraghkoa	Joseph
Sowanzawe	Jacob
Tehotkaghraantoghko	Piter
Shawayendowane	Joseph
Orundadeckha	Henry
Tooghweankaroto	Paulus

Indians of Sehoohary

Nahohideye	Laurus
Tehoghoghwensagogtho	Seth
Tiniungino	John
Anaghgooneghs	Jacob
Kanegoghare	
Awenhaghse	David
Aghsunhaguehs	Hans Ury
Keantslagroto	Jacob
Unughragueghte	Lawrence
Kaneya	Joseph
Decanajiyaseno	Johannes
Th'riwaghty	Joseph
Aeghwanentha	Nicholas
Oreghuryughsto	David

Indians of Oneida

Kanaughrageagate	
Tanughqaaque	
Tahaghtaghquesere	
Watsatuhha	
Keandarundi	
Niyoherase	

Indians of Oghquary

Tarroghiores	William
Kanosheahse	Abraham
Teyonogo	Hendrick
Karunghiadeckha	Brandt
Tiyonidade	David
Canagaradoughqua	Brandt

Young Men

Ohiaweaghte	Joseph
Saghsanowane	Peter
Okaghsageghte	Jacob
Aghseathearo	Lot
Saosaguatho	Aunt
Skaheghtade	Joseph
Adarockquagho	Adam
Gideon.	

Indians of Anowara

Sowaraghions	William
Onughrageghte	David
Sagaderighktha	Jacob
Tekarihoga	Johannes

Anatshiaraghse	Nicholas jun^{r}
Oneaagaghte	Jacob
Sayayake	Isaac
Sakotsta	David
Joseph	
Ongharewe	Paulus
Idekodara	Aaron
Owadokweany	Nicholas

Indians of Onondago

Ozinoghiats
Sorihowans
Canatsiagaye
Tshathawadoris

Seneca Indians

Gahikdote	Grote Young^{e}
Sageaghsado	
Takayenquaraghto	
Soyenoakha	
Sorhadowane	
Wahanatseary	
Onwayoense	

Cayuga Indians

Tekacaye	fine Corse
Skaghnadote	
Skanegrade	
Oyeaghseragea^{t}	
Oneiarageghte	Arent

After all was done with the Indians M^{r}. Woodbridge a Schoolmaster as beforementioned of Stockbridge employed by the Connecticut People to make the Contract with the Indians for the Sasquehannah Lands, came to M^{r}. Peters, and declared, that if he could be assured of M^{r}. Penns Title to those Lands, he would desist treating with the Indians in favour of the Connecticut People: and to satisfy him M^{r}. Peters shewed him the several Deeds made to the Late & present Proprietors for those Lands and the general Deed of the Six Nations not to sell but to the Proprietaries any Lands within the Limits of the Royal Grant of the Province, and when he had perused them, he declared himself perfectly satisfied, and assured M^{r}. Peters that those People would give the Proprietaries no further trouble.

Col^{o}. Williams one of the Connecticut Commissioners had likewise the perusal of the Deeds and told M^{r}. Peters that the Proprietaries Title appeared to him to be good, though he was then and is now one of the principal Persons concern^{d} in this dark affair.

We have, Sir, given you a full account of all our Transactions in the discharge of your orders, and we hope it will meet with your approbation. We are

Your Honour's
most obed^{t}. humb^{l}. Servants
John Penn
Richard Peters

Philadelphia
5th. Augt. 1754.

And to see
he afforded the
Annum
To avoid

23d. A Scout of Captn Busse arrived. The Centry's heard the Indians distinctly whistle this Night in the fort Woods.

24. Ensign Biddle, according to Orders, with a Scout of 20 Men, went over the Mountains to Captain Morgan's Fort.

25. Lieut. Philip Weiser came here from Fort Henry, with a Scout.

26. Ensign Biddle retd from his Scout, having been at Captn Morgan's fort, & from thence scouted over the Mountains into Allemangle & from thence along the foot of the Mountains till here. This Day I also arrived in the fort from Lt. Coll. Weiser's.

27. Having Orders from Lt. Coll. Weiser's to look out for a proper Place to build a new fort, this being so bad, I began to lay out one on a spot which had been befr pitched upon by the Colonel and Captn Busse, But night coming, We could not finish.

28. Laid out the remaining Part of the fort.

29. Had some Brush cut, round the new intended fort, till Evening.

30. Sent off a Scout towards Schuylkill. They retd in the Evening, but made no returned with the remaining party of the Men. I continued clearing & burning of Brush.

31. Sent off Serjt Smith with a scouting Party, towards Schuylkill. He retd but made no Discovery.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, the Sixth of August, 1755.*

Present.

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

ROBERT STRETTELL, BENJAMIN SHOEMAKER, JOSEPH TURNER, RICHARD PETERS, WILLIAM LOGAN, } Esqrs.

The Governor informed the Council, that having a standing Instruction from the Proprietaries to take all Opportunities of making another Purchase of Lands from the Six Nations, which was every Day become more Urgent by the great Numbers of People setling beyond the blue Hills over Sasquehanna, as all such Settlements were contrary to the Stipulations of this Government with those Indians, and might create Differences with them, He had recom-

* There must be an error in this date, as Hamilton was not then Governor —it should be 1754, and not 1755. Purchases were made or confirmed in 1754. See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI. p. 124, &c. See Minute of Aug. 6, 1754, Vol. VI., p. 57, when the same persons were present, though this does not appear on it. It may have been another session on the same day—this is apparently a Copy.

mended it to Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters to try, by all the means in their power to make a Purchase, and the Larger the better; and to facilitate this necessary Work, He had, by the advice of Mr. Weiser, dispatched John Shick Calamy, early in the Spring with a Message to the Six Nations, informing them of the necessity of another Purchase by reason of the Encrease of the Inhabitants, and their being not to be restrained from making Settlements beyond the Present Boundaries, and desiring they would enter into Treaty with Mr. Penn & Mr. Peters, who were to be at Albany in the Summer, and would have full Powers for that Purpose.

His Honour further said, that in Consequence of this Message a Treaty had been held with those Indians, and the Report thereof he would now Communicate to the Council, and accordingly it was read, and ordered to be entered.*

Indorsed.

Minutes of Council of the 6th of Augt., an Indian purchase.

Deposition, Peter Hogg, 1754.

Albany, ss:

Appeared before me, Peter Hogg, of Hosick, in the County of Albany, Yeoman, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of the Almighty God. Deposeth, and on his Oath, doth say, That this day, about three of the Clock, he left Hosick, where he then saw the greatest Part in a light Fire or Blaze; the Houses, Barns, and Barracks, that stood there, on the East side of the Hosick Kill or Creek. And further saith, that when he left Hosick this day, that he then, there heard one John Hogg say, that he had seen the Enemy at the distance of about one hundred yards, and that he guessed them to be above three hundred in number: And further, this Deponent saith Not.

PETER HOK.

Sworn before me, this 28th August, 1754,

ROBERT SAUNDERS,

Mayor.

New York.

A true Copy Examd. By

GEO. BANYAR, Secry.

Indorsed.—"Affidavit of the burning & destroying the Settlement at Hoseck."

* Some words wanting.

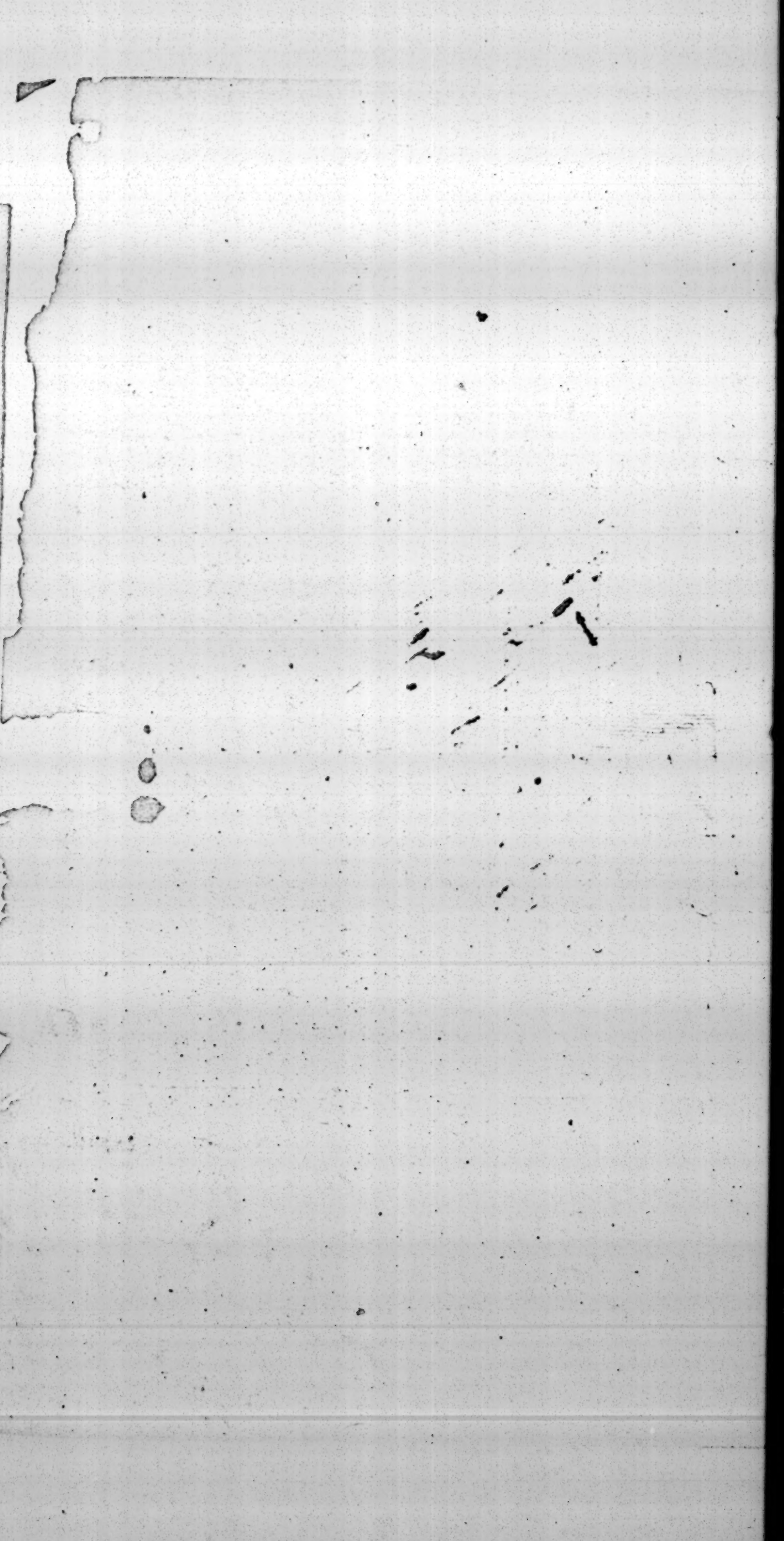
Oswego Augst 9th 1754

I embrace this opportunity of Reporting to your Honour that this Day past this Fort bound towards Canada Seventeen Canoes with Seven French Colours Hoisted as also Two English Colours Yelping the Death Hollow from the time of their appearing in sight till they came almost opposite the Fort and then ceased and after they had past a little distance fired Five or Six Guns (one at a time) to Leward upon which Three of our Five Nation Indians went out to enquire what News they had, and overtook the hindermost Canoe which happend to be Cokhnawaga Indians & one Frenchman, who told them that they had been in an Engagement with the English, and after a smart Battle had Killd and taken Four Hundred in Number with all their Arms Baggage &c but seem'd loath to discover any particulars, and did not even say that they had any English Scalps or Prisoners with them, but that this party Consisted mostly of Indians; and that there was Twelve different Nations of the Foreign Indians gone to Join the French on Ohio against the English.

I beg leave to observe to Your Honour that I have no Cartridge Paper for either Musket or Cannon, and but Fifty Flints, which I think deficient tho' we have met with no Interruption as yet being all quiet and safe. Permit me to Continue with all Dutifull respect

Sir Your Hon.rs Most Obedient Humble Ser.t

Kitchen Holland



August the 9. 1754

Letter from the Officer at Oswego, with Intelligence that by French Carrow passed that Fort towards Canada — and that 12 diff.t Nations of foreign Indians are gone to Join the rest on the Ohio

20 Aug.t 1754. Read in Council

Copy

Auquick August 16th 1754.

May it please your Honour,

The Half King Scarooyady and several other Indians with their Wives and Families have been here since Col. Washington was defeated, and about twelve Days ago came here the young Shawonese King from the Lower Shawonese Town, and several more with him, and Delaware George and several other Delawares came here from the French Fort - Delaware George brought a Letter from Capt. Stobo one of our Hostages to the Commanding officer in Virginia, the Indians would have the Letter broke open, a copy of which I send You by the Bearer.

The Shawonese and Delawares have made four Speeches to the Half King and me, they directed three Speeches to your Honour and the Governor of Virginia, the Purport of all three Speeches is to renew the Chain of Friendship and to know what the English intend to do. They have heard from the French before they came here, that the Half King and all that were with him were killed here by the Southern Indians - Your Honour will see by Capt. Stobo's Letter what Strength the French are of now at the Fort, the Indians are all very uneasy to see the Backwardness of the English, and say, they fear that the French tell them of their Brethren is too true, that is, that the English are afraid of the French notwithstanding their superior Number - The Shawonese and Delawares were sent down to see if there were any Preparations making to attack the Fort this Fall, they imagine it will not be hard to do now, but if deferred till next Spring, they think it will be very difficult to do.

The Half King has sent Three men off for Shingas and the Delawares and the Shawonese to bring them here in ten Days, and has ordered me to write to your Honour to meet or send one to meet them here in Ten days; they all seem to think, if the English do nothing this Fall when they have it in their Power, that the Ohio Lands will belong to the French, so that it is my Opinion this Meeting will determine the Ohio Indians, either in Favour of the English or French.

By Order of the Half King I have wrote to Col. Innes to let him know that the Indians expected to shake hands with some of their Brethren of Virginia as well as Pennsylvania; Col. Innes makes his Compliments to your Honour, I saw him a few days ago, he was going to Will's Creek to join the Independant Companies and build a Fort, he is very much for attacking this Fall.

May

Copy
To August 1754
George Croghan's Letter to

PENN MANUSCRIPTS
Vol. 6 217

May it please your Honour, I here send You an account of what the Indians has had since they came down, by which your Honour will see what a Burden it is to maintain so many Indians - I hope the Assembly will allow this account that I may be able to pay the People, whom I had the Flower and Meat from, or else I shall be obliged to discharge the Indians and send them home, for I am not able to bear the Expences myself. I am

Your Honours

most obedient and

most humble Servant

Geo. Croghan

PENN MANUSCRIPTS - OFFICIAL
Vol. 5, page 217

Penn Papers
Official Corr
v. 6 : p. 217

under the great Seal on the part of
with Commissioners of the Province of
and agree upon the Bounds between the two
to his Honour the Report of their proceedings; whi
and approved of; and the thanks of this Board
Murray and M.r Smith two of the Commissioners, for the
diligence in this matter. And it appearing that no Sett
or Agreement had been made by the Commissioners. It
by his Honour with the advice of the Council, that the sa
Report be Referred to the Committee and Commissioners
Authorized by Act of this Government, to examine into t
Eastern Boundaries of the Colony; in order that they may
pursuance of the said Act, prepare a Representation setti
forth the State of his Majesty's Claim, and right to the
within this Province Eastward to Connecticut River. As also
Lands Eastward of that River, suggesting therein whatever
may be thought necessary to support the said Claims. An
wise enquire & that they lay the same before this Board.

Correct to the Committee appointed by the Assembly to state the Representation of the State of the Province

A Representation of Cadwallader Colden and Alexander Colden Esq.rs Surveyors General of Lands in this Province was presented to the Board and heard; complaining of obstructions and difficulties they met with in the Execution of their Office, occasioned by some evil disposed persons residing near the Mohawks Indians, and more particularly by one David Schuyler and his Son Peter Schuyler and praying that some order may be taken therein, to prevent the like for the future.

Representation of the Surveyors General of the Lands how they meet with obstructions in their Office.

Ordered that the said Representation be referred to the Gentlemen of the Committee or any five of them who are to make report thereupon with all convenient Speed.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York the twentieth day of August 1754.

Present

The Honble James De Lancey Esqr Lieut Govr &c.
M.r Kennedy
M.r Holland
M.r Chambers

Extract from the Governor's Speech to the Assembly on meeting them at Albany

His Honour communicated to us the proceedings of the Commissioners for Indian affairs of the 3d 4th & 8th Instant and other things signifying that the Governor

of

[illegible] with him there and that
for the Indian Corn is ripie which the
endeavoured by Arguments to dissuade them

The Council are of opinion it is proper the
ons should send their Interpreter to Onnondaga to use his
endeavours to prevent the six Nations complying with their
Invitation and advised his Honour to send directions to the
Commissioners accordingly.

At a Council held at Fort George in the
of New York the twenty eighth day of August
Present The Hons.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut Gov.r &c.
M.r Alexander | M.r Holland
M.r Kennedy | M.r Chambers
M.r Murray | M.r Smith.

All papers relating to the Indian affairs to be laid before the Council

His Honour Communicated a Letter of the 6th Instant from Lieutenant Holland at Oswego containing intelligence that on that day seventeen French Canoes passed that place bound to Canada consisting chiefly of Indians from whom they had an account that twelve different Nations of foreign Indians were gone to join the French on the Ohio.

Letter from the Governor of Virginia to his Honour

A Letter from Governor Dinwiddie of the 31st Ultimo giving an account of the Defeat of the Virginia Forces under the Command of Major Washington, and urging the necessity of a Supply from this Province

to be laid before the Assembly

The Council advised his Honour to lay the said Papers before the Assembly.

At a Council held at the House of
Edward Holland in the City of New York the
thirty first day of August 1754.

Present

The Hons.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieut Gov.r &c.
M.r Alexander | M.r Holland
M.r Kennedy | M.r Chambers
M.r Murray | M.r Smith

Letter from the Governor of Virginia to his Honour

His Honour communicated a Letter from the Commissioners for Indian affairs of the 28th Instant, inclosing an affidavit of one Peter Hogg, who says that he left Hoosick that day, and saw the greatest part of the Houses Barns &c on fire, and that one John Hogg told him he had seen the Enemy (supposed to be French Indians) who were above three hundred in Number

It

by the Secretary in these Words.

"The Governor promised himself from the "Speech at the Opening of the Session, that (considering "they would have fallen upon some method of raising "he might have had no material objection; and could not "mortified at finding the Bill now presented him "in the said Plan, but to be nearly of the same Tenor "at their last meeting. He has nevertheless complied "and has agreed to extend the Fund they have chosen "Proportion as they have encreased the Sum granted "peremptory, and will admit of no alteration in "after assuring them, that the Governor, least the King's "his Powers even beyond what he almost dares think "their respective Conduct to the Judgment of our Superiors. But he hopes this also may "be rendered unnecessary by the arrival of the Gentleman that is to succeed him in the "administration, who may every day be looked for among us; and who may possibly "think himself more at Liberty, with respect to the matter in Controversy, than the "Governor can presume to do: in the mean while it is hoped no considerable Detriment may "arise to his Majesties affairs in the short Interval between this and the Time of his actual "arrival.

"So much has already been said upon this Subject on another Occasion, that the Governor "declines any farther Enlargement thereon, as well knowing, that publick Disputes of "this Nature frequently terminate in private animosities, which he is very desirous of "avoiding, and therefore only expects from the House that they will do him the same "Justice he is willing to do them, in supposing him to act from his Judgment, when he "tells them, that he cannot recede from his amendments."

the Importance of the Occasion) Request he made to the House in his money for the Kings Use, to which and could not therefore help being extremely for that Purpose, to be not only formed with that to which he refused his assent with the Proffer he then made them, to raise the money upon, in the same to his majesty. But the House is their Bill. All then that remains, Service should suffer, has strained consistent with his Safety, is to submit

And in the afternoon a Message was delivered by Two members to acquaint the Governor, "that the House had near gone thro their Business, and proposed to adjourn "to the Thirtieth of September, if he had no Objection thereto;" and he made no Objection

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At a Council held at Philadelphia Thursday the 22d August 1754.

Present

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn
Joseph Turner } Esquires.
Richard Peters

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Letter from George Croghan which came by Express from Aucquick, and a Letter enclosed therein from Capt Stobo were read, and ordered to be entered, and are as follow.

Aucquick Old Town August 16th 1754.

May it please your Honour,

The Half King, Scarrooyady and several other Indians with their Wives and Familie have been here since Col Washington was defeated, and about twelve Days ago came here the young Shawonese King from the Lower Shawonese Town, and several more with him; and

Delaware

Delaware George and several other Delawares came here from the French Fort. Delaware George brought a Letter from Capt. Stobo, one of our Hostages, to the Commanding Officer in Virginia; the Indians would have the Letter broke open, a Copy of which I send You by the Bearer.

The Shawonese and Delawares have made four Speeches to the Half King and me, they directed their Speeches to your Honour and the Governor of Virginia, the Purport of all their Speeches is to renew the Chain of Friendship, and to know what the English intend to do. They have heard from the French before they came here, that the Half King and all that were with him were killed here by the Southern Indians - Your Honour will see by Capt. Stobo's Letter what Strength the French are of now at the Fort; the Indians are all very uneasy to see the Backwardness of the English, and say they fear what the French tell them of their Brethren is too true, that is, that the English are afraid of the French notwithstanding their superior Number - The Shawonese and Delawares were sent down to see if there were any Preparations making to attack the Fort this Fall, they imagine it will not be hard to do now, but if deferred till next Spring, they think it will be very difficult to do.

The Half King has sent Three men off for Shingas and the Delawares and the Shawonese to bring them here in ten Days, and has ordered me to write to your Honour to meet or send one to meet them here in Ten Days; they all seem to think if the English does nothing this Fall when they have it in their Power, that the Ohio Lands will belong to the French; so that it is my Opinion this meeting will determine the Ohio Indians either in Favour of the English or French.

By Order of the Half King I have wrote to Col. Innes to let him know that the Indians expected to shake Hands with some of their Brethren of Virginia as well as Pennsylvania. Col. Innes makes his Compliments to your Honour, I saw him a few days ago, he was going to Wills's Creek to join the Independant Companies, and build a Fort; he is very much for attacking this Fall.

May it please your Honour, I here send You an account of what the Indians have had since they came down, by which your Honour will see what a Burden it is to maintain so many Indians - I hope the Assembly will allow this account, that I may be able to pay the People whom I had the Flour and Meat from, or else I shall be obliged to discharge the Indians and send them home, for I am not able to bear the Expence myself. I am

Your Honours
most humble and most
obedient Servant
Geo: Croghan.

As soon as the other Letter of Capt. Stobo comes to hand I will send your Honour a Copy of it.

The Honourable James Hamilton Esquire.

A Letter from Captain Stobo.

Fort Duquesne July the 29th. 1754.

Sir

I wrote You Yesterday by an Indian named the Long or Moses, he will be with You in Seven Days, this goes by Delaware George; if these discharge their Trust they ought to be well rewarded, the Purport of Yesterdays Letter was to inform You of a Report, and I hope false, which greatly alarms the Indians, that the Half King, Monecatootha are killed, their Wives and Children given to the Catawbas, Cuttoways and Cherokees. I wish a Peace may be made up between the Catawbas and the Nations here, they are much afraid of them;

many

many would have joined You ere now had it not been for that Report. You had as... just a Plan of the Fort as Time and Opportunity would allow - The French manage the Indians with the greatest artifice. I mentioned yesterday a Council the Shawonese had with the French, the Present they gave, and they made the French a Speech yesterday. The Bearer who was present will inform You to what Purport. If yesterdays Letter reaches You it will give You a particular account of most things. I have scarce a minute therefore can only add one more thing, that there are but two hundred men here at this time, two hundred more expected here in a few days, the Rest went off in several Detachments to the amount of a thousand besides Indians. The Indians have great Liberty here, they go out and in when they please without notice. If one hundred trusty Shawonese, Mingoes and Delawares were picked out, they might surprise the Fort, lodging themselves .... under the Platform behind the Palisadoes by Day, and at night secure the Guard with their Tomhawks; the Guard consists of Forty Men only and officers - None Lodge in the Fort but the Guard, except Contre Caur, the Rest in Bark Cabins around the Fort - all this You have more particularly in yesterdays account. Excuse Errors and bad Education, and I am -

La Force is greatly mised here let the good of the Expedition be considered preferable to our Safety. Haste to strike -

Your humble Servant
Robert Stobo.

A List of Deserters and Prisoners at the French Fort.

Mercers Company { John Smith, John Baker, Barnabas deven. } did not get here till after the Detachment of Deserters.

Vanbrams Ditto

Mercers Ditto - { Jacob Arants, John Ramsey }

Meaha's Dr. John Steuerd sager wounded in the Right arm.

montours { Daniel Laferty Prisoners, Henry Obrian - - }

Taken at Guests by an Indian named English John, Lowrys Traders { Andrew Mc Briar, Nehemiah Stevens, John Kennedy }

Elizabeth Williams

The Indians offered their Prisoners for Sale, enquired the Price Forty Pistoles for Each, a good Ransom.

This man is as the Cause of all our Misfortunes, he .... deserted the Day before the Battle, the French got to Guests at Dawn of Day, surrounded the Place, imagining that We were still there; gave a general Fire, but when they found We were gone, they were determined to return with all Expedition, thinking We had ..... returned to the Inhabitants: when up comes Mr. Driscall told them that he deserted the Day before, and that the Regiment was still at the Meadows in a starving Condition, which caused his deserting, and hearing they were coming deserted to them. they confined him, told him if true he should be rewarded, if false hanged, this I had from the English Interpreter.

All sent to Canada in Custody of the Indians, who took them, except John Kennedy, he was given to the Owl to weigh upon while his Leg was curing, he was wounded with ten others and four Indians, all are recovered but one, who died after having his arm cut off. Four were shot on the Spot that is all the Loss I can hear of. On the Twenty Third Three of their People .... deserted, I hope they are got with You by this Time, I hear more intended it soon. I spoke to the Commander several times concerning the Prisoners, telling him as long as We came to a .... Capitulation to make them Prisoners, he told me they were the Indians, and he could not get them from them.

The Council were of Opinion, that Conrad Weiser should be immediately sent with a Sum of Money and proper Instructions to Aucquick; and that if the Letter should be laid before such of the members as lived in Town, they would readily supply the Money.

Occasion, that the Governor declines any farther Enlargement thereon, as well knowing that publick Disputes of this Nature frequently terminate in private Animosities, which he is very desirous of avoiding, and therefore only expects from the House that they will do him the same Justice he is willing to do them in supposing him to act from his Judgment when he tells them that he cannot recede from his amendments."

And in the Afternoon a Message was delivered by Two Members to acquaint the Governor "that the House had near gone thro' their Business and proposed to adjourn to the Thirtieth of September, if he had no Objection thereto," and he made no Objection.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Thursday the 22d August, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn,
Joseph Turner,
Richard Peters,
} Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Letter from George Croghan, which came by Express from Aucquick, and a Letter enclosed therein from Capt. Stobo, were read and ordered to be entered and are as follow:

"AUCQUICK, Old Town, August 16th, 1754.

"May it please your Honour:

"The Half King Scarrooyady and several other Indians with their Wives and Families, have been here since Col. Washington was defeated, and about twelve Days ago came here the Young Shawonese King from the Lower Shawanese Town and several more with him, and Delaware George and several other Delawares came here from the French Fort. Delaware George brought a Letter from Capt Stobo, One of our Hostages, to the Commanding Officer in Virginia; the Indians would have the Letter broke open, a Copy of which I send You P the Bearer.

"The Shawonese and Delawares have made four Speeches to the Half King and me; they directed their Speeches to your Honour and the Governor of Virginia; the Purport of all their Speeches is to renew the Chain of Friendship, and to know what the English intend to do. They have heard from the French before they came here that the Half King and all that were with him were killed here by the Southern Indians. Your Honour will see by Capt Stobo's Letter what Strength the French are of now at the Fort;

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"The Half King has sent Three Men off for Shingass and the Delawares and the Shawonese to bring them here in ten Days, and has ordered me to write to your Honour to meet or send one to meet them here in ten Days. They all seem to think if the English does nothing this Fall, when they have it in their Power, that the Ohio Lands will belong to the French, so that it is my Opinion this Meeting will determine the Ohio Indians either in Favour of the English or French.

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"Your Honour's most humble and most obedient Servant,

"GEO. CROGHAN.

"As soon as the other Letter of Capt Stobo comes to hand I will send your Honour a Copy of it.

"The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire."

—

A Letter from Captain Stobo.

"FORT DUQUESNE, July the 29th, 1754.

"Sir:

"I wrote You Yesterday by an Indian named the Song or Moses; he will be with You in Seven Days; this goes by Delaware George; if these discharge their Trust they ought to be well rewarded; the Purport of Yesterday's Letter was to inform You of a Report, and I hope false, which greatly alarms the Indians, that the Half King Monecatootha are killed, their Wives and Children given to the Catawbas, Cuttoways, and Cherokees. I wish a Peace may be

made up between the Catawbas and the Nations here; they are much afraid of them; many would have joined You ere now had it not been for that Report. You had as just a Plan of the Fort as Time and Opportunity would allow. The French manage the Indians with the greatest Artifice. I mentioned Yesterday a Council the Shawanese had with the French, the Present they gave, and they made the French a Speech yesterday. The Bearer, who was present, will inform you to what Purport. If yesterday's Letter reaches You it will give You a particular account of most things. I have scarce a minute, therefore can only add one more thing—that there are but two hundred Men here at this time, two hundred more expected here in a few days; the Rest went off in several Detachments to the amount of a thousand besides Indians. The Indians have great Liberty here; they go out and in when they please without Notice. If one hundred trusty Shawonese, Mingoes, and Delawares were picked out, they might surprize the Fort Lodging themselves under the Platform behind the Palisadoes by Day and at Night secure the Guard with their Tomhawks; the Guard consists of Forty Men only and Officers. None lodge in the Fort but the Guard except Contre Cœur; the Rest in Bark Cabins around the Fort. All this You have more particularly in yesterday's Account. Excuse Errors and bad Education, and I am

"Your humble Servant,

"ROBERT STOBO.

"La Force is greatly missed here; let the good of the Expedition be considered preferable to our Safety. Haste to strike."

—

"*A List of Deserters and Prisoners at the French Fort:*

"Mercer's Company, { John Smith, { Did not get here till after
John Baker. { the Detachment of Deserters.

"Vanbram's Ditto, Barnabas Devan. { This man is the Cause of all our Misfortunes; he deserted the Day before the Battle; the French got to Guests' at Dawn of Day, surrounded the Place imagining that we were still there; gave a general Fire; but when they found We were gone they were determined to return with all Expedition, thinking We had returned to the Inhabitants, when up comes Mr. Driscall; told them he deserted the Day before, and that the Regiment was still at the Meadows in a Starving Condition, which caused his deserting, and hearing they were coming deserted to them; they confined him, told him if true he should be rewarded, if false hanged; this I had from the English Interpreter.

"Mercer's Company,	Jacob Arants, John Ramsey.	
"Meaka's Do.	John Stuerd Fager, wounded in the Right Arm.	
"Montour's Do.	Daniel Laferty, Henry Obrian,	Prisoners.
"Taken at Guests' by an Indian named English John, Lowry's Traders.	Andrew McBriar, Nehemiah Stevens, John Kennedy, Elizabeth Williams.	

"The Indians offered their Prisoners for Sale; enquired the Price—Forty Pistoles for Each; a good Ransom.

"All sent to Canada in Custody of the Indians who took them except John Kenedy; he was given to the Owll to weigh upon while his Leg was curing. He was wounded with ten others and four Indians; all are recovered but one, who died after having his arm cut off. Four were shot on the spot—that is all the Loss I can hear of. On the Twenty-Third Three of their People deserted. I hope they are got with You by this time. I hear more intended it soon. I spoke to the Commander several times concerning the Prisoners, telling him as long as We come to a Capitulation to make them Prisoners, he told me they were the Indians and he could not get them from them."

The Council were of Opinion that Conrad Weiser should be immediately sent with a Sum of money and proper Instructions to Auckquick, and that if the Letter should be laid before such of the Members as lived in Town they would readily supply the Money.

At a Council held at Bush Hill Thursday the Third Day of October, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn, Benjamin Shoemaker, Richard Peters,	Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner,	Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Council were told by the Governor that the Proprietaries had accepted of his Resignation of the Government, and had appointed the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquires, Chief Justice of New Jersey, to succeed him, who was arrived at New York and had given him Notice of his Intention to be in Town this morning; that being indisposed he could not go meet him, but had sent the Secretary with his Compliments to acquaint him of his Indisposition and

May it Please y^r honour Augst ye 30th 1754

Yesterday I Received y^r honours Express, and aquainted the Indians that Wm Fraser was on y^r Road with a Messige from y^r honour to them which was a very Agreable piece of News to ye Indians in Generall

one of ye Indian Messengers that went to Ohio is Returnd and brings an Account that there will be a Great Number of Indians from Ohio here in a few Days, as he tells Me, they are all Deserting ye French of all Nations by a peace Seperate from ye rest I hear ye French is very Sickly and Lost Verry fine Day of a Day

I Assure y^r honour I have been as Frugal as in My Power in Supplying ye Indians since they came here Nor Did I know any thing of their coming till they gott here, for had I Known att Wills Creek when they Sett of I Should have Endeavord to Made them Stay in Virginia att ye Camp before I would a Drawn Such an Expence on ye Provincy or Such a Trouble on My Self, I was Abroad when they came But as Soon as I Came home I Putt a Stop to any Speeches being Caught Amongst them Nor Do I Even keep one Dog in My own house

I Hear Inclose the Copy of a Letter from Capt Mackay to Mr Croghan in his last Letter with a Plan of Fort which I Received two Days Ago by an Indian Named Joseph

I Received a Letter from Colo Innes yesterday who Makes his Compliments to y^r honour he Informs Me that

92 [illegible]

there will be one of ye Council from Virginia to Carlisle
ups hear to Confer with ye Indians Soon, who I hope
will Bear Some of the Expence, for I a Shure ye
honour ye Expence will be great, there is Such a Numb.
of Women & Children, and More a Coming, they have al-
=ready almost Distroy'd 30 Acers of Indian Corn for Me
Exclusive of ye other Provisions which is very Scarce and
hard to be gott, as ye Country takes all opertunitys
to Extort an Extragant price for what they have
to Sell: Butt if those Indians be to be Maintain'd
here, I wold be glad ye Government wold Send Some
Person to Purchase ye Provisions for them, whome I
wold assist as Much as in My power by which Means
ye Government Might be fully Satisfy'd of ye Price of
Provisions and ye quantity that wold Serve as well as
the trouble of takeing Care of So Many of Distant

Freber

I Shall Do Every thing in My Power to Assist
& Wait Your Excellencys Honours Commands
I am Your Honours Most
Humble & Most
Obedient Servant
Jn Hoghan

Ye Indians Left Here on the
Promise made them Last fall by
ye Government of Virginia, and the
Government to Supply them
with Provisions
as they are Drove out of their own
Country

Sheyhack old Town

To

The Honorable
James Hamilton Esq.
Governor of Pensylvania
in Philadelphia

To his Excellency Charles Hardy
Governor in Chief in and
over the Province of New-York & Territories
depending Vice Admiral & Chancellour of
the same
The Humble petition of the Mohock
Indians Living in Schoharry his Majesties Loyal
Subjects & Soldiers whose names are hereto subscribed
Most humbly Sheweth

That your Honours petitioners
pasture Land to Johannes Lawyer of Schoharry
by Lease Contract for three years he had one of said farms
bounded with the Land of Nicolas Mc Mc & the pasture &
wood Land belonging to said Mc farm, as yet Excepted
out of the Sale made to Lawyer, having Covenanted with
with Nicolas Mc for that part that Lay convenient to him
and when said Lawyer, brought the Surveyor Generals
Deputy to Lay out the Lands & Easements as would by no
means suffer the Surveyor to Lay out that Land Covenant
with Mc for a long, with Lawyers, Except for Mc use
& then agreed upon it Should be for the use of Mc the
Land was Laid out under one, which made the Lease the
Easyer for the Surveyor to Run all the Way

(1135(6))

principel men of Seshaney
& Veracity, How Lawyer have go
as he Says takes all the Land as well
what we sold him; & y[e] Soil, as by Sale
Insinvation to the Secratery, Lawyer obso
to sel ~~him~~ malin have the Land we Reserv to him
he bought it at an Extravagent price, he
for us the other Day to pay for the Land & De
Shoald give him Receipt in full, in order to
Shew he had a right, to ~~him~~ malice as well as his o
er, Order to Cloak his Injust Dealing which we
Refused either to take the money or give a Receipt
May it Therefore please your Excellancy to consid
the premises, with the many agrivating
Circumstances, & that your wonted probity & Justice
may be herein, Manifested by Releasing the Injuri
Dance to y[r] Excellancy y[e] ~~Pet~~ & that Quales ~~Pet~~ malice have
his part of the Land Accordeng to our Covenant
& for y[r] Excelly Long Life & prosperity y[e] Pet
as in Duty bound will Ever praye Lopes le Clarke Dumle
Margret Clarke Dumle Signed & Sell Clarke Dumle Junior
& Order
Pat Clarke Dumle Pat Clarke Dumle
Andrew Clarke Dumle

To his Excellency
The Honourable Sir
Charles Hardy Esqr
Governour &c. New York
&c. &c. &c.
Indians of
Scohary

A Letter from the two Missionaries of the Falls of St Louis to the Albany Commissioners

Gentlemen

Some Indians Dwelling at the Falls of St Louis (Called Cagnenagos) have complained here that the Last Blow which has Struck Upon Your frontiers, By Some of the Aberenagois and Algonkins had Rendered them Obnoxious to a Suspicion of Being false to their Promises to You ——— Besides they Have Said Before us Your Selves, of Being Ill Informed Not Only of their Present Intentions, But also that of the Colony with Respect to the Government of New York, All that we Can Inform Your Gentlemen is, that our Cagnenagos here, are Very Much offended, at the Aberenagois of Berancour their Allyes for taking Such a Stepp.

And that far from having Consented that Expedition together With them, or Secretly Approved of it, they have Indeed Sent with to Inform their father the Governour General of Canada of it, who Immediately upon Receiving the News Sent us Back an Answer, in Form which Very Clearly Expresses his Real Sentiments of that Invasion, and to Leave You No Uncertainty about it: Which Might Be the Cause of Raising the Difference Between us and You, Both with Respect to Government Religion. he Believe he May Without Fear Communicate to You his Answer, as he Sent it to us Signed with his own hand. ———

We Have Veerjoyd Gentlemen to take hold of this Opportunity of Proving to You, the Sincerity of Our Intentions, that Peace May Be Preserved Between us, for the Common good and Reciprocal Tranquility of us Both

We are with Respect

Respect

Gentlemen

your Most Humble and Most Obedient

Servants the

Missionaries of the Falls of S.t Lewis P.R. Billiard

J. Gordan

He who Will Deliver this Packet to you is Sonnoches

He is Accompanied By Otsitoiategen
Cacogenrat
Cirosen
Quetet
Aragendiak
& the son of Quetet
} all Considerable Men of that Castle

&c Any Body Else Comes With them they Were Not
Depu.t.d By the Castle. Skorondo had a Mind to
Come Along With this Company, But he Was Rejected
Having often Given Reason to Suspect his Fidelity

The Governour of Canada's Letter, Refer: to in the foregoing

Montreall September 16th 1754

Reverand Father, I Received the Letter which you did me the Honour to Write to Me the 10th of this Month in which you Remark, the Imprudence which the Abenaquies of Bekancour the Nepisingues and the Algonkins their Allies, have Been Guilty of in Attacking the Government of New York, Notwithstanding I Expresly forbad them.

I Gave a very Bad Reception to the Algonkins and Nepisingues who Were so Imprudent as to Enter Montreale in triumph with the Scalps which they had taken as trophys of a victory. I Ordered them Immediately to Leave the Town Instead of Coming to visit Me As they Intended, and I Wrote to the Missionary of Bekancour, to Make their Indians Sensible of My Resentment for having acted Contrary to My Will, and that I Would find out a Way to Punish them Severely for it.

these two Years Bygone the Abenaquies have Plagued Me with their Importunities to allow them to Revenge the Assassinations Committed upon their Nation By the English; tis now I had hindered them, But they having Moreover Represented to Me that the English had Encroached upon their Lands, and Straitened their Hunting Bounds. I Answered By Requiring them to Warn the English Again, to Remain Within their own Limits, and if they Paid No Regard to this Last Summons it Was then their Business to Defend their own Territory But the Question on that time Did not relate to Albany.

When I Was Informed that a Party of these Abenaquies Went towards Fort Frederick, I forbid them I forbid them to Do any Damage in that Government and Made My Express Order Be Repeated to them By the Commander of that Fort in the Presence

. Presence of the Cagnewages Who Were there at that time : for they had Been the Messengers Who Carried it. ——— You Know Better than I Reverend Father, that it is Impossible to Stop Indians Who Dont Discover their Designs, altho I Had prevented them, In foreseing their aim, But I Hope the Manner In which I Have treated them, for their Disobediance Now, will for time Come, Put a Stop to their Inclenation of Doing Any. thing Contrary to My Will. —— I Have the Honour to Be Reverend father with Respect Your Most Humble and Most Obediant Servant

Duquesne

+

Messieurs

Nos sauvages domiciliés du Sault St. Louis se font plaintes icy de ce que le dernier Coup fait de nos Côtés par quelques Abénaquis et Algonkins avoit rendu auprés de vous leur Bonne foy suspecte. D'ailleurs ils nous ont exposés le desir que vous avies d'être bien informés de leurs intentions Presentes et de Celles Même de la Colonie pour ce qui regarde le Gouvernement d'Orange. tout ce que nous pouvons vous dire a ce sujet, Messieurs, C'est que nos Iroquois ont été indignés de la demarche de leurs Alliés les Abenaquis de Bécancour

A Messieurs Les Conseillers du Conseil d'Orange

+

Il que loin davoir Concerté avec Lui ou approuvé secrettement cette
Expedition, ils nous ont chargé Den Instruire au plutôt leur Sere,
le Gouverneur general du Canada, qui a linstant de la Nouvelle
nous a repondu dans des termes qui Lexpriment bien nettement ses
vrais sentimens sur cette Incartade; et afin de ne vous permettre
la dessus aucun Doute, que pourroit peutetre faire naitre la Difference
ou nous sommes avec vous, d'Etat, et de Religion, nous Croyons
pouvoir sans aucun Risque vous Communiquer sa reponse telle quil
nous la Envoyé, signée de sa Main; nous sommes charmés davoir
Messieurs cette Occasion de vous Prouver la droiture de nos sentimens
pour le Bien de la Paix et de la tranquilité Reciproque,

Nous sommes Avec Respect

Messieurs

Vos tres humbles et tres Obeissants Serviteurs
Les Missionnaires du Sault St. Louis
S.R. Billiard ptre Gordan ptre

Celuy qui Vous Remettra ce Paquet se nomme Jonnonchés ——

Il est Accompagné de —— Otoilsiategen
Caiogenral
Arosen
Kéitre
Aragendiak
El du fils de Kéitre

} Tous Considérables au Village —

tout autre qui se trouvera parmy eux est sans mission de la part du village, et s'ils connoissoient avoit envie de se joindre a la Bande, mais il a été refusé comme ayant souvent donné de la Bonne foy suspecte.

Letter
from the Millionaire
to Cooperage
to the Committee
of the Indian affairs

Virg.a Sept.r 10.th 1754

70:29(1)

Yr Agreeable Letter of the 30.th Ult.o I rec.d This Majesty's
Service is much oblized to You for the Trouble You took with Your
Assembly to procure a Bill of Aid to the present necessary Expedition;
& agreeable to said Act, inclosed You have a Minute of the Council
here, advising me how to have the Money brought hither; as also
my Order under the Great Seal of this Dominion, to pay £10,000.19.4
to Julian Legge Esq.r Comander of His Majesty's Ship Shoreham, who
is so kind to offer his Service to bring the Money to this Place in his
way to his Station of S.th Carolina. I desire to return my Thanks to
the Assembly for the seasonable & necessary Supply.

I thank You for the Intelligence from Oswego. It is not
possible to prevent from that Place, the many Reinforcements
sent from Quebec so nigh that Fort: but I am a Stranger to that
Country, and the Strength of the Fort, probably I may judge wrong
on that Head. The three Belts of Wampum were sent me from
the five Nations coming to Winchester, desiring my Aid and
Protection of their Allies & Friends at the Ohio, & desiring me to
return them when I came to Albany as our Affairs would not
allow me to send Commissioners to that Treaty. I now by the Bearer
return the Belts.

No doubt but the building a Fort at the Mouth of the
Revier au Bieuf would be of great Service, but our chief Aim
must be pointed on removing them from the Ohio, which if we
can do the other may probably follow. — I am sorry for the
Occasion to inform You that our Assembly met the 22.d of last M.o
& I thought with great Inclination to grant a handsome Supply
accordingly they voted 20,000 which gave me much Satisfaction
but on the third reading of the Bill they tacked a Rider to it, viz.t
To pay 2500 to Payton Randolph Esq.r their Agent sent Home
with a Complaint against me: This Sum was by Resolve of the
House of Burgesses in the Session last Nov.r & then rejected by
the Council, & as such a Tack of a Private Bill to a Money Bill
for His Majesty's Service being Unconstitutional the Council
rejected it, & as all the Resolves at that Time were of an ephaordi
nary Nature, & without any Precedent, they now lie before

(the

the King & Council for their Determination thereo
of our Hands till we hear from Home; all these Argum
inequality of the Vote, & everything I possibly could su
availed Nothing with an obstinate, Self opinion'd, Set
they determined by a Majority in the House, not to send up the
the Council without that Sack, & they could not in Honr. pass it
had formerly rejected the same in a Resolve; on which I was oblig
prorogue them to the 17th. of next Month

This unexpected affair has put a full Stop to me
this Fall, if the 20,000 had pass'd. I determined to augment
to 800 Men, which, with the three Independent Companies,
from Maryland, I proposed making a Push this Fall, & I think
good Prospect of Success, but now I am confined to keep the Men no
pay to build a Magazine for Provisions, & a Fort near to the Allega
Mountains, to put every Thing in a proper Posture for a Push
in the Spring, not doubting on their next Meeting they will grant
above Sum without any Clogg. This intolerable Conduct of the Ass
gives me great Uneasiness, as it affords the Enemy the whole Win
to strengthen themselves, & to make Incursions on our Frontiers.
Number of French & Indians have already appeared in small Part
the Frontiers of the County of Augusta; I have ordered a Detachmen
from our small Regiment to suppress them, & to protect our Front
for occasion to raise the Militia.

This, Sir, is the melancholy Situation I am at present in
but still hope that before the Spring shall be able to raise a sufficie
Force to make a proper Figure against them; But am now fully
convinced that no Expedition can be conducted here with a Depende
on the Assemblies Supply; I have therefore earnestly applied Home
a Supply of Hard Money, without which I dread Success; We are al
deficient of all sorts of Ordnance Stores either for a Campaign or a
which I have also desired a proper Supply from Home; my Letter
this Head must be with the Ministry before this, & am in Hopes
will seriously consider our Situation, & grant Relief.

I excuse the length of this Letter as I could not well abr
it, & thought it proper to give You a Sketch of the present State
Affairs. I remain with great Respect ——.

P.S: Mr. Dobbs, the Gov.r of N. Carolina is
daily expected in the Garland Man of War,
he is ordered (as I hear) to consult with me
on the present Expedition & probably will
bring some new Instructions. If any
thing of Consequence, I shall intimate
the same to You

Please Turn over

J. Forbes

Most obed.t Hble.

Rob.t Dinwiddie

Speech to be delivered with the Belt to the Six Nations, if You think it is
[illegible] may forward it; & I desire the favour of You having a proper Belt made
to be delivered with the Speech, the Charge thereof I will thankfully pay, having no
Person here that can make them

September 15: 1754

Assembly of Virginia
with order to pay the Money
granted by that Act towards
the Ohio Expedition to Capt.
Legge.

20 September Read in Council

Albany 13. Sep: 1754

79:32

May it Please your Honour

We Rec: Yours of the 2. Current & have Noted the Contents, we have Spoke to Severall of the owners about the Lands at Sarichtoge & find that there are but few owners at Present, who can Convey their Lands, & besides Some of the Lands not Convenient for an Indian Castle, their are but few Proprietors that have 50 acres Low Land for their Shares, So that no Equivalent can be made to Each other

We Belive, that the Wid: Schuyler & the Widow Ten Broeck, will both Dispose of their farms at Sarichtoge, Those Lands Lays opposite one another We are with Great Respect

May it Please your honour

Your most obedient humt Servants

Phil: Schuyler

Cornelis Cuyler

11 Sept. 1754

From Majr. Philip Schuyler and Comr. Cuyler

16 Sept. Read in Council

N. Y. State Library

cularly inconvenient at this time, and therefore to put an End to your Continuance here, I do prorogue you to ye Seventeenth Day of October next, & you are accordingly prorogued to that Time.

Wm. Alexander to R. Peters, 1754.

Dear Sir:

I think I told you last Winter of a Gent we have here, very extraordinary for teaching writing in a Short time in great perfection. 'Tis Mr. Elfingston, who is the bearer of this; he intends to Stay at Philadelphia Next Winter if he meets with Incouragement, and has asked of me to recommend him to some Gent there, I know of none more proper than Mr. Peters, and I hope he'll pardon the Liberty I take in doing so, as he is a promoter of every thing of Public use. The specimens Mr. Elfingston will shew you, sufficiently say what he can do, some of them are so surprising that they almost want a Voucher to make the honesty of them believed, most of those he has taught here I am acquainted with, and know that their Specimens were taken very impartially. I am

Dr Sr,
Your Most Humble Servt,
WM. ALEXANDER.

New York,
Sepr. 16th, 1754.

Direction.

To Richard Peters, Esqr., Philadelphia, pr Mr. Elfingston.

Extracts of Letter from James Stevenson to —— 1754.

Dear Sir:

I am not Certain that the French are Concerned in the late Incursions and Depredations made on our Country, But so it is, that 16 Houses with Barns & Barracks belonging to them are burnt Down and Destroyed, with the wheat that was in them, their whole Crope, and a great Number of Cattle kill'd.

It is probable that if the people had not gott some Intelligence of their Danger the Day before, they would have been Massacred.

Out of four Men that were together in a Mill, only one is escaped clear. One was killed, Scalp'd and most barbarously butchered, another wounded, a third missing. Some Indians have told here in Town, that they had seen on the Carrying Place, those Indians who

had been at Hosick, but they had no Prisoner, only 2 Scalps, so it is likely they have killd and Scalp'd the other Man.

I am afraid the French will Stir up our own Indians with some Orondax, who they pretend they cannot hinder, to keep us in Constant Alarm; they will thereby oblige our People to leave their Settlements, which a great Number have already done, and think also, it will prevent our sending Assistance to Ohio.

Some of our People who were fled, are gone back to thresh and bring away their Wheat, but their Summer Grain, Pease, Oats and Indian Corn, are all Destroyed.

I desired my Son to give you a hint that Lydius* had been up amongst the Indians and procur'd a Deed† in behalf of the Connecticut Government, for the Lands, or perhaps only part of the Lands, that you purchased for your Government. I am since informed that the fact is true. Above 30 Oneydes are now in Town. It is pretended they came to speak with the Comrs of Indian Affairs, but if my Information be Right, they came down on a Message was sent to them by Lydius, and they are mostly at his House. The Comrs knew nothing of their coming till the Interpreter sent Word from Schonectady, that they were so far as Colo Johnson's on their Way. I am assured by one of the Witnesses to the Deed, that Several of our Mohawks signed in Lydius's own House, besides those that Signed in their own Castle.

According to your Desire, Mr. Claus gott the Map that you desired from Lydius, and I gott Mr. Bleecker to Copy it, for which he charg'd forty Shillings, and I paid him. He says he believes it to be very exact, and Mr. Lydius says that the Original was made from an Exact Survey taken by Order of the King of Ffrance, I have sent it with this to the Care of Mr. William Alexander. I am with the most sincere Respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most obliged humble Sevt,

JAS. STEVENSON.

Albany, September 17th, 1754.

Indorsed.

James Stevenson, 17 Septr, 1754.

Read in Council, 14 Jan'ry, 1755.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. pp. 111, 112, 248, 284, 291, 293, 481.

† See the deed on page 147, it is probably that alluded to above.

ment

the City of New York on
day of September 1754.

The Hono.ble James DeLancey Esq.r Lieu.t
M.r Golden
M.r Alexander
M.r Kennedy
M.r Murray
M.r Holland
M.r Smith

from the Governor of Virginia to pray the Warrant given by this Board on the 2.d inst.o to Julian Legge Esq.r

His Honour Communicated a Letter from Governor (Virginia) of the 10th Instant, inclosing a Copy of a Mi the Council of that Government of the 5th advising Gover Dinwiddie to desire Julian Legge Esq.r Commander of H Majestys Ships Nonsham [now in this Port] to receive o Governor of this Province, the Sum of four thousand six hun fifty one pounds Nineteen Shillings and four pence half the Ballance of Five thousand pounds, the Sum given by Act of this Government towards assisting the Colonies o Virginia and Pensylvania, to dispossess the French and Indians who have Settled and erected Forts on their Lands on the River Ohio and parts adjacent thereto. Also inclosing the Governor of Virginias order, under the Great S of that Province, dated the 6th Instant, impowering the said Julian Legge to receive the said Sum of Four thousand S hundred fifty one pounds Nineteen Shillings and four pen half penny.

Warrant to the Treasurer to pay the money to the Governor

A Warrant was then read directing the Treasure of this Province to pay to his Honour the Lieutenant Governor the Sum of Five thousand pounds for the service aforesaid, Three hundred forty eight pounds and seven pence half penny whereof his Honour being impowered by the Act to retain in his own hands, for monies advanced by him for victualling and Transporting two Independent Companies of this Establishe regular Forces to Virginia, a Receit for the monies so advanced by his Honour was read and thereupon his Honour with the advice of the Council signed the said Warrant which is numbered 1010.

Message from the Governor of Virginia to the Six Nations

His Honour Communicated a Message inclosed in the said Letter which was read from the Governor of Virginia to the six Nations which M.r Dinwiddie mentions in his Letter to be an Answer to three Belts of Wampum sent to him from those Nations to receive which he says he sent Mr Weiser and to

desire

[illegible] being read thereon
[illegible] it to the Commissioners of Ind[illegible]
[illegible] to send the same with a proper Bill to [illegible]
[illegible]able to the request of Mr Dinwiddie in his Le[illegible]

A Petition signed by the Magistrates and several Principal Inhabitants of Schonectady was read; praying his Honour would be pleased to order for the use of the Fort there several Cannon Nine pounders with proper Ammunition and Stores, and to direct sundry alterations and repairs to the Fort and Blockhouses. The Council advised his Honour to send thither as many Cannon not exceeding Six pounders, with such Stores as he shall judge necessary and to recommend to the Inhabitants to repair the Block houses and Fort and to agree upon what he will recommend to the Assembly to make good the expence they may be put to.

On Reading an Affidavit of Hezekiah Wemple charging one John Abeel with Selling Rum to the Indians in the Southern Counties. It is Ordered that a Copy thereof be served on the Attorney General, and that he forthwith prosecute the said Abeel for the said offence— And the Council also advised his Honour to order the Magistrates of Albany to bind over the said Abeel by Recognizances to appear at the next Supreme Court.

The following Warrant being read was Signed by his Honour viz.t

1711. To Henry Brasier for going Express to Virginia on the publick Service . . . . . £20.

His Honour communicated a Letter from the Commissioners of Indian affairs of the 12th Instant recessing that they had sent for all the principal Carpenters there in Town, about the building of the Fort [illegible] Hudsons River above Albany ordered to be built by advice of the Council that some of them were engaged and others ordered to work and find materials on the Credit of the Government: and that they will fix up advertisements at Albany and Schonectady to this effect, if any will comply therewith.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York on Sunday the twenty ninth day of September 1754.

Present

His Hon.r Jam.s De Lancey Esq.r Lieut Governor &c.a

M.r Alexander
M.r Kennedy
M.r Murray
M.r Holland
M.r Chambers
M.r Smith.

This

79:43

Albany 24th September 1754

May it Please your Honour

Since our Last of 16th Inst to which We Refer you we had None from you
The present Serves to Cover and Convey you our minutes
from the 5th Inst to this Day
We are with Profound Respect
Your Honours
Most Obedient Humble Servants
By Order of the Commissioners
Cornelius Cuyler
Jno. Sanders
John Batt. Van Rensselaer
Sybrant G. Schuyler
Pieter Winne

24 Sept: 1754

From the Comm^rs of Indian Affairs with their Proceedings from the 5 to the 21st Instant.

Read in Council the 30:

Read in Council 30 Sept: 1754.

To

The Honorable James De Lancey Esq
His Majesties Lieutenant Governour
And Commander in Chief of the
Colony of New York

At
New York

N. Y. State Library

79:44(6)

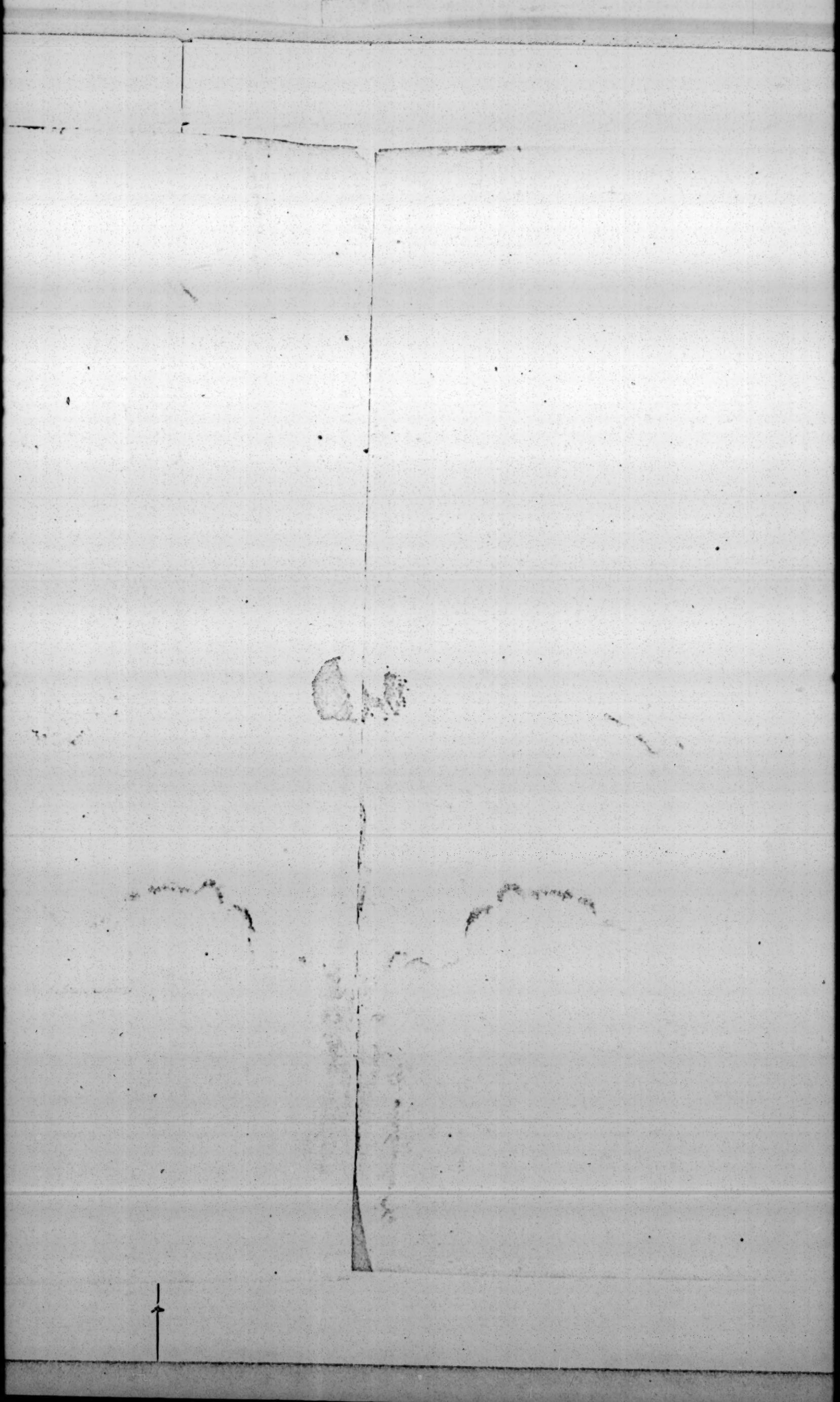
Albany 27th Septr 1754

May it Please your Honour

Since our Last of 24th Instant. We have Received a Canoe from Oneida with 3 Cagnewage Indians a Boy, one of which We Had Before us, and Brought us a Message from the Cagnewage Sachems, as you will See By the Inclosed Minutes,
We Have Sometime Past, Sent Upon Honour the Minutes, of a Treaty We had with the Cagnewage Sachems, which Will Be Glad to Receive Your Honours Answer thereon.
if the Cagnewage Sachems Should Come Again this Fall We Would Be Exceeding Glad to have Your Honours Advice How to Act with them In this Critical time. We are of Opinion that it is very Necessary to Keep friendship With them—
the Arrival of this Canoe, Incouraged the People of Schaakok (and Others) to Return to their Habitations Again, In Order to Sow their Lands which Otherwise they Would Not have Done out of fear. this Indian tells us that there is about 14 Days Ago, Burnt 35 Capital Houses in Montreal, and 3 Churches

27

We Remain Always Your
Honours Most Obedient Humble Servts
Hubert Marshall
Wyndert Ten Broeck
Cornelius Cuyler
Pieter Winne
Robt Sanders
Lyb. Van Den Bergh
Jno Beekman
John Baptist Van Rensselaer



29. September 1754

From the Comm.rs of Indian Affairs with a Memorial of that day.

Ent. 31.t B.k N. Rec.d in Council

To

The Honorable James De Lancey Esq.r Lieutenant Governour and Commander in Chief over the Colony of New York &c.

Ent.

New York

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs at the House of Robert Lattrage August 8th 1754.

Present

Mr. Sanders Mayor
Mr van Schaick Recorder
Capt. Beekman
Capt. Winne
Col M: Schuyler
Cornelius Cuyler Esqr

Six Indian Seachems of Canowage (to wit) the Prince the Bort, the Natt Nay, Canogeaie Sayadoodose with About 45 other warriors of that Nation, Appeared Before us, and Desired that by his Honour the Lieutenant Governour had Been Pleased to Kindle a Fire here at Albany again, and that When all News must Be Brought; they Desire of his Board to Act Carefully with the poor Six Nations, than Gave ten Strings of Wampom

they Desire to Be Known, that No more of them Came Down to Treat with the Governor, they say that the Rum (Being so Cheap) Amongst them has the Occasion, and hope there will Be No Drunkenness Amongst us for it. then Gave ten Strings of Wampom

They also Desire of this Board that Tayadagton Be Appointed a Sachem for the Tribe of the Wolf, then gave ten Strings of Wampom

They also Say, that they are Desirous Friendship, By the Covenant that Is made Between them the Respective Nations, and that a Proper Smith May Be Sent among them, who shall Be Able to Mend their axes, hoes, Shot guns, and Also, as they have Been at some Expences, In Bringing of their Canoe over the Carrying Place and the Falls, and Shall Be at the Same Expence In Returning home. they Desire it May Be Paid By this Board in Order to Procure them for their Journey home, that they May Keep their Corn from Doing Mischief to the Farmers, then Gave ten Strings of Wampom

they further Say, they Received Last Fall a Belt of Wampom from the Governors, of Virginia and South Carolina, and a Letter, to Enquire Whether any of the Six Nations, have had a hand in Killing the Men Before, they Say they have made a Strict Inquiry thereafter, But cannot Believe that any of their Nations are Guilty of it, and if such Be Done, they Suppose it to Be Done By the Canada Indians,

Also further Say that they have sent 2 Belts of Wampom to the Governor of Virginia, and Never had Answer thereon; they Desire that the Belts May Be Returned with an Answer — they further Say that there is an Indian, one of their Nation, who left his Engagie and the Country has their Thanks, for Obedience to Our Governor's Request, the Six Nations, Are Come to Live with them, Hereby he is for the Future Subject of this Country, they Desire that Three Strings of Corn might be granted

The Commissioners of the Indian affairs, Replyed the Sachems answers, By Mount Stevin Interpreter of this Province, as follows

Brethren we thank you for the Joy you Now Express, that his Honour the Lieutenant Governour had Been Pleased to Kindle the fire here at Albany, in Peace, and that All the News is to Be Brought here &c you Expect he Will Take Care of the Six Nations, We Assure you that all the Prudent Care Possible will Be Taken By this Board of the Six Nations, Give you Strings of Wampon

Brethren, the Reason you Assign that No Greater Number of your Nation Came Down at the last Treaty With his Honour here, Was occasioned By the Quantity of Rum then Being among you, Agreable to your Request So it, Since Rum is a Drawing Article We Shall Bury it in Oblivion, and Expect for the future, that the Same Shall not Happen Again, when the Governor Sends Down for you.
Give you Strings of Wampon

Brethren, Since you Desire us to Appoint Taiadagrodon a Sachem Amongst you, in that Tribe of the Wolfe, We Do, Agreable to your Request Appoint him a Sachem among, and to Confirm him in that Post, We Give him one Blanket of Laroza, one Shirt, one hat laced with a Gold Lace, and one Pair of Stockens,

Brethren, you say, that his Honour the Governour has Promised you friendship, and that he Would Provide you Necessities, and that you Now Desired that he Should Send a Proper Black Smith to Reside among you, to Make your Axes, & Hoes, & Mend your Guns, We Shall Agreable to your Request Recommend the Same to his Honour the Governour, and Doubt not But he Will fulfill what he Promised you, as We Will Pay Agreable to your Request and for the Riding of your Horse also for Calking it at Schonghtade, and Give you Provisions on your Return By the Way & While here

Brethren as to What you Desire us to Make Known to the Governours of Virginia & South Carlina, Shall Be faithfully Done By us In your Behalves, and Since there is one of your Nation Viz. who Left Mortgages, and to Come he their Sachem, in Obedience to Our Governours Request to the Six Nations, Whereby he for this year Declined it, Indian Corn, and you Requested of us to Give him Indian Corn, We Agreable thereto Give him an Order to take Delivery at the Fall By John Jost Herkeman; and Expect you Will Call your Nation People, to Come and Live among you

Brethren here is News, the English, your and your Brethren and the French have Been a fighting together, and there are on Both Sides Several Killed, and Wounded; and We hear that all the Shawanose, also Som of the Six Nations, (Residing at or About the Ohio Rivers) joyn the French, which We are Amazed to hear, Being that they are your Grant Children, and as We Conceive, that the Shawanose Only Say there as Being Your Spies, this last Winter, it Agravates our Grief the more to hear that they Joyn the French, of which We have a Certain Account from Oswego.

We Desire Brethren that Immediately after your Return home, You Send a Message In your Name to forbid them, Not to Joyn the French for the future, But to assist the English. Also We Desire You to Send Messages to all those Nations, where-ever you have an Interest to the Same Purpose, than Give a Belt of Wampon.

At a Meeting of the Said Commissioners at the House of Robt Stoage August 7th 1751

Present
The Recorder
Col Mc Chandler
Mr John Beekman
Mr Jacob Ten Eyck

the Cayuga Seachems, With Several Warriers Appeared before us and Say, they are Sent as Messengers from their Ca[stle], to Desire, that they might Be Brought Among them Rum, and that they also Desired the Same of the Governor, Who Seem'd to be Surprized and Ill Satisfyed, the Reason they Say is this, that they cannot Live on their Land. Neither Can they Increase, and In Case it is Not Speedily Prohibited, they cannot Remain a Nation, they further Say that the French at Oswego Wont Allow that Rum Be Sold, to the Indians that Live Among them, so that if they Will have Rum, they are Obliged either to go to Canada or to the English, And Unless Rum is Prohibited to Be Brought Among them, they Will Be Obliged to Remove to the French where the Rum is Sold, for they Say they Cannot Subsist if Rum Be Brought among them, they Say, that there has Been a Message to Invite them to Come to Canada, to treat with the Governour, and they Propose to Go when the Indian Corn is Ripe; they also Desire that Direction Might Be Given them, in Returning home Invitation, and Obliged to Carry the Belt to Onon the Governour there Gave a Belt of Wampon.

The Commissioners, Replyed the Seachems and Warriers

Brethren We Thank You for the Message You Brought us that You Have Determined the Rum, and Shall Consult it in the Strongest

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[illegible]

Not But that Your Request Shall Be Granted, You also Desired Provi-
While here, and in Returning home, abt a Waggon to Schonegstende, Agreed
it Shall Be Given You, then Give few Strings of Wampon

Brethren You Say Also that You are Invited to Canada to treat there
With the Governour when the Indian Corn Should Be Ripe—

Brethren since the Governour has Been But few Days Gone, And has
Renewed the Covenant Chain Between You and Us, We hope it is Not Yet
out of Your thoughts, therefore Desire You Not to Go, and Send Your Invitation
Back, You very Well Know What a Set of People they Be, they are Always
Seeking to Raise Disturbances and Confusions among You and the English, and
Especially Now, While they are Busy to Incroach on the English Settlements at
Ohio, therefore We Desire You Not to Go, Since We are one head and one
heart, they are Enimies to Us Both You very Well Know, that from time
to time You have Been Misled by the French, Sometimes By Saying that
You Must Not Go to Albany for fear of the Small Pox, Again at Other
times, that You Would Be Killed at Albany, and More other Lies
then Gave a Belt of Wampon—

At a Meeting of the Said Commissioners at the house
of Robert Lateraye August 8th 1754

present
Richard Peters Esqr
Wm Shirley
Indian Commissrs
Wm Logan Esqr
Chas Beckman

about 50 Schanyadegroene Indians, Appeares Before us.
they Say they Intend to Stay yet 2 Days, and Desire that
Provisions Might Be given them, While here and on their
Journey home, they also Say that they have Som Guns among
them, which are out of Repair they Desire that the Commissioners will get
them Mended, they also Desire that a Waggon Might Be given them, to
Ride the Sicke, which they have Got at the Last Treaty With the
Governour, as far as the Uppermost Farmers at Schohare
then gave a Belt of Wampan—

The Commissioners of Indian affairs Replyed the Shamandegone Indians
in the Following Manner

Brethren as to what you Say about a Waggon, it Supposed
Being it is Almost All the Roads is Impracticable—

as to what You Say About Your Guns Being Broke, we Shall Order a Gun-
smith to Mend them, also Let You Know that Give You Provisions, while here, and
on your Return—

Treaty Papers
Proceedings of the Commissioners
Aug. 8 1754
Recd
Governor

Present
the Mayor
the Recorder
Cornelius Cuyler
Capt Vinne
Capt Dan
John B. Beekman
Jacob C. Ten Eick
Col M. Schuyler

Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs
July 27th 1754

Resolved, that Dirk van Der Heyden Become
two or three Proper Indians, to go as Spies to
Crown point. to See Whether there Be any Preparation
Made By the French or their Indians, to Commit
Hostilities on Our Frontiers. and that one of them
Come immediately to Bring Answer, and the other
Remain there for a Few Days

Present
the Recorder
the Mayor
Col M. Schuyler
Jacob C. Ten Eick
Capt John Beekman
Capt Cornelius Cuyler
Capt John B. C. Rensselaer
Capt Peter Vinne
Capt Peter Van

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs
at the City Hall of the City of New York
July 27th 1754

Resolved that Arent Stevens Be Writ to for
that he attend this Board to Morrow Morning
By Soon as Possible — and that the following
Letter Be Sent to him

Sir at the Desire of this Board, I Send
to acquaint You, that Your Attendance is Required
here to Morrow Morning as Soon as Possible
on Business of Consequence Given under my Hand at
City Hall this 27th Day of July 1754

The Indian Nasaghkane
Dirk van Der Heyden
July 27th 1754

Was this Day Sent to Crown Point By
Order of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs
Returned and Appeared to this Board and
Reports as the following Answer Viz

He Went from Schaaskook to Killian De Redders the first Night
Proceeded in his Journey from there to the Carrying Place the 8th
Day he Came to Crown point Where he Found 16 Indians of the South
Sort Before he Came there he heard Some Guns Fireing after the
Indians Fashion, When he Resolved to Return Back, But on a
Second Consideration, he Went forward and Came to Crown
Point By the Wind mill Where he Slept that Night, In the
Morning Some Onnagungues Came to him, and Bid him Welcom
So he Went in the Fort, Where the Commander told him that he Did
Not Come there of his own Accord, But that he Was Sent there, and
Asked the Reason, he Confessed that he Was Sent there, and told him
for Reason, that as he Sent Spies in Our Country, without Coming
or Stoping at any Place In our Country, Gave us Reason to think
them, the Commander Replyed that they had Been there to Get
Letting. Etc. for their Says that there Was 40 Forts about the Fort
Which Contained each Man, that Were About Repairing the Forts

All the Onnagungues, Sagatticoake, and Schaiscook Nations Resolved to
Schaaskook Skachkook and Several Sparkes of the Cagnewage Nation
Appeared Before us, Saying they Were Now Ready to hear What we have to

The Commissioners Replyed them By Jacobus Clyssent as Interpreter
Brethren we Desired you Last Fall (Vide Minutes of October 21: 1753)
as you then Was But few In Number that two Sachems, out of Each
of your Castles, to Wit, of the Cagnewages, Canasedagey, Rondax &
Onnagungues Were to Come Down this Spring, to Confirm the old
Covenant, and are you here Accordingly

To which the Sachems and Warriors Replyed, it is true you Desired
But he that are Now here Speaks in the Name of all the Said Nations, as
the Commander and are Master of All the Rest

then the Commissioners Asked them, why all the Nations Did Not Come
Down as they Desired them

they Replyed, that the Canasedagers Where all Busy In their affairs, and Could Not well Spare time to Come With them, as the Kahnawakis, and Annagangues, they Overlook them at Crea and Proceeding of their Journey, they Concluded, they Would g Company to Albany, and When they Came to Lake Saranac, they d they Could go No further then Schaahook, and as they (the Canasedagers) Were the Greatest in Power, they left it Intirely to them, and if the Commissioners Were Inclyned to Speak With them, for Sending they Might Come to the Carrying Place, Where they had Kindled their fi

The Said Commissioners Appointed the Day after to Morrow to Speak further With them

Resolved By this Board that Robert Wendle Be Sent for to Attend Here to Morrow Morning as Soon as Possible

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Present
The Mayor
The Recorder
Col M Schuyler
Colonel Cuyler
Colonel Jo Ronalds
Peter Wraxall Esqr
Jacobus Van Zandt
Esqr

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs at the House of Robert Sanders August 13th 1754

Robert Wendle Appeared to this Board.

Resolved. that said Wendle go forthwith up to Schachook, and Desire the Annagungue Sachems to Come Down to Albany

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Present
Colonel Cuyler
the Mayor
Col M Schuyler
the Recorder
Jacobus Van Zandt
Colonel Jo Ronalds
Peter Wraxall
Esqr
Esqr

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of Robert Sanders August 14th 1754

Mr Anthony Blacker appeared here and Informed this Board that Between 40 and 50 of the Onyde Indians are Ready to Remove to Canada, in order to Live there and further Said, that in his Opinion Capt Stoddy Magin, has the Most Interest Among them to Stop them

Where as We Conceive it Expediant and Necessary for his Majesties Service, and the Welfare and Interest of this Province, that Capt Stoddy Magin, and Arent Stevens the Provincial Interpreter, Be Sent to Said Castle, and Desire them Not to go

Resolved that a Copy of the following Instructions Be Delivered to Capt Stoddy Magin and Arent Stevens Provincial Interpreter

Instructions for Capt Stoddy Magin and Arent Stevens Provincial Interpreter

You the Said Capt Stoddy Magin, are hereby Required and Directed to Proceed Without Loss of time, from Hence to the Onyde Castle, where Arent Stevens is to Join you as Interpreter, and from thence to Onyde, and tell the Onyde Chiefs, that We are Informed that a great Number of them are going to Remove to Canada, in order to Live there, and

and that We Desire them to Go their Immediate Endeavor to Make a Stop to their Going, and also to Negotiate with the Mahacky and Canajoharry Sachems, With your Message

Given Under our Hands
at Albany August 14th 1754

Myndert Schuyler
Robert Sanders
Cornelius Cuyler
Jacob C. Ten Eyck
Lt. Col. Glen Schuyler
Peter Wraxall
John B. V. Rensselaer
John Beekman
Peter Gaasbeek

Resolved that a Letter Be Wrote to Mr. Stevens Signifying to him the following is a Copy

Albany 14th August 1754

Mr. Stevens

Sir You are hereby Required, forthwith to Go With Capt. Deady Magistrate to Onyde, and there use your Utmost Endeavours in Conjunction With him, to Stop the Indians from Going to Canada, and hope it will be at your Peril We are your Humble Servants

Myndert Schuyler
Cornelius Cuyler
Robert Sanders
Jacob Ten Eyck
Lt. Col. Glen
Peter Wraxall
John B. V. Rensselaer
John Beekman
Peter Gaasbeek

Copy this

then Appeared Before this Board, the Sachems and Warriors of the Canajoharry Nat., to Whom the Commissioners Made the following Speech

Brethren We are Glad to See you here at this Juncture in Obedience of our Request to you Last Fall Since Monday the 31st 1754 ——— then Gave Several Strings of Wampum

Brethren If you have Last Any of your Eyes Out here with Wipe the Tears Out of your Eyes, that we May see you as Clear as the Sun Shines in your Country at Home and Look at each Other Without Sorrow. Whereupon gave a Belt of Wampum

Brethren as you are but few in Number Lest you Should be Remove the Old Covenant Chain, therefore Stren Gthen you Last two Sachems, and Each of your Returns (to Wit) Canajoharry, Canassadage, Conadacka, and in case you Should Come Down Next Spring. and We are Glad to See you now for your Selves & in Behalf of the Other of our Allies

Brethren We Now again, Renew the Old Covenant Chain with you and your Allies, which has been Made Between

Treasathers, and Desire you, and all your Allies, to Keep
same, Bright, Clear, and free from Rust, as long as the Sun and
Moon Indures, and that No Dark Cloud, May Come on the
Way, So that you and We, may Walk and Go Without fear
or Terror: and Live Always in friendship, With Each other.
and Also in Case an Open War should Break out, Between the
King of great Briton and the french King, We Desire you to
Send Ventre, and Commit No Hostilities, on any of his Majes ties Subjects
and We Do Now Again (as We also Did Last fall) Assure you, that
we on our Side, Will Keep, the said Covenant Chain Bright, Clear
free from Rust and Dirt, and the Road Between us and you Clear from
all Dirt and Dirt, and the Fire Burning.
and as We are Informed that, that you have Now Stopt the Ameagungon
and Runaducks of Doing Mischief to our People, We Sincerely thank
you for it and Desire and Expect you Will Do the Same, at all times,
and as against them if any thing Should happen for the future
Then you Gave a Large Belt of Wampon
Then the Cayuga Chiefs, and Warrior Replyed
Brethren We Rejoyce With you to Behold that Always God
that We May We have a Conference together, We Dont Doubt, But
you Like boys have had Sorrows together; We here with Wipe the
Sorrow out of your Eyes and Open your hearts that you May hear
and Understand
Then Gave Seven Strings of Wampon
Brethren We Thankfully Receive your Belt of Covenant, and
to Confirm the Same, We for our Selves, and in Behalf of
the Onondagues, and Roniadox and Onnagungues, Give you this
Then Gave a Belt of Wampon
Brethren you Did also Give thanks for that We Stopt the
Road and Onnagungues, and Sent a Great Number Back
and Conferenced With them Some Minutes of the Last Counsell they
Told us, Fortham of them, Would Goto Schachkok, and Renew their
Covenant With the Schachkok Indians; We Did, that May Be
the Commissioners will Send Word for them to Albany, they Gone
So, they will Not for their fire Was Kindled at the Carrying Place
Notwithstanding all that, We Shall Keep Ourselves
Strictly to the Covenant Chain, and Shall Always Do, as We have Co
You. and Moreover Shall Give you Intelligence - if any Ill
Designs Intended against you

Brethren You also Say that No Clouds Shall come
In the Sky. But that you will Seperate and Clear, as much
as Lays In your Power. and that you will Keep the Road open
and Clear from all Filth and Dirt. and if a War Should
Break out Between the King of great Britain and the Southern
King, you Desire us to keep our Selves Neuter.
We Cannot give a Proper Answer to that, Since we have heard that
your Governour has given the Hatchet to the Mohawk Indians.
which we Shall go and Inquire into and answer you that
Paragraph when we Return. and if any of you are Inclined
to Go along with us, to hear what we Say, you may and Welcome.
We Desire you also to Provide us a Waggon to Schoneghtade, and a Sleye
to the Mohawks

Resolved that a Waggon to Schonegtade and a Sleye
from there to the Mohawks, Be Provided for the Embassy.
and that Jacobus Clement Go along with them, and Mark
their Speech; and Make Report thereof to this Board

Present
the Mayor
Col M Schuyler
John B. Van Rensselaer
Jacob C. Ten Eyck
the Recorder
Cornelius Cuyler
Jacobus Wynkoop
Peter Wendell

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of the Affairs
of Indian Affairs August 15th 1754
the Annaganganaw Sachems who were sent for by
Robert Kinsie, to wit; Alexander, Sachem, Wassaukatak, and Otsaggunapo, of Mahikander
and several Others, Appeared at this Board to
whom the Commissioners made the following Speech

Brethren We Heard you Were at Schachkok, we then sent
you a Hand, of Tobacco to Invite you Down to Smoak a Pipe
with you here ——— then you gave Strings of Wampum

Brethren Since we have had an Opportunity to Smoak a Pipe with you, we cannot Help but to Mention to you that
we have of the day Renewed the Covenant Chain, with the Upper and
Nether Mohawks, the Cayenegas, who Sit at Tionondoge
the Canasedagas and Rondax, and Annagangaw. and it was
Understood upon Right; they said they had you and their Brethren
to Sit with us. and Since we understand, that you have but
few Sachems here at this time, we Desire you that if you can prevail
with the Rest of the Sachems of it, to Let us Know that we may
Come Down this Fall to Confirm the same
with you. We Shall Expect an Answer

August 15th

Brethren we have Lately heard that you together with more of your people 820 Kendaxe left your Casal Lately in order to Cut off our People at Saraghtoge: and had it not been for our Brethren the Caghnawage Indians, who Perswaded you to the Contrary, & upon their Request too of your People and them Kendaxe Returned from fort Jessick at Crownpoint, and you Rout to Schachkok; and that all the time of Profound Peace; Whereby think Strainge. and since Now we Enjoy Profound Peace we Desire you, that the Like May Not Happen Again. But you come here to this City from time to time where you will find your fire Burning as in former Days, and the Road Clear from Dirt and Dust

Brethren we are Astonished, to hear you Should have said, that your fire was Burning at the Carrying Place We Desire you to tell us when, who had Directed you to Make or Kindle the same fire; for we are Strangers to that fire, and Know of no other fire then in this Town Burning

The Annaghnagie Seachems Replyed

Brethren for those that are Asleep, this is to Open their Ears and that that they may hear and Understand

Then Gave five Strings of Wampum

Brethren we have made the fire at the Carrying Place Long Ago, and also two Years Ago. and the French have Scattered the same, and now Brethren we are come from Albeanytok to Look to the fire: the same Decreasing. Mr Fiedies was Ast to take Care thereof

Brethren we are Exceeding Glad that the fire is here now Kindled, and we like it very Well that the Road is open and if any Treize should fall therein we shall take them out, and Keep the same always Clear. and we shall for the future come here to our own house, and if we Should come at Schachkok or Below Schachkok, where we Might find Bass Meate to Eat we Should Say, we Shall not Eat the Same, But avoid it, and so come and Inquire at this Board: where it Might Proceed from; and Not Return Back to our Casal, that they May Not the Blood to Ourselves. Brethren you may Rest Certainly Believe that we are your Brethren and take it to be such. and Now we Desire to Look how the one half of the Fire, and Keep it Strong thereof

Then Gave a Belt of Wampum

Brethren here is also three Indians out of Masiengue Castal, Who also Opens the other half of the River, as far as the same Extends. and Assure you that of our Side, this Road shall be Kept Open and Never Stopt Unless Stopt By you 47(3)

Brethren Be Assured that the Masiengue Indians Open the Road to this our Home, and Since this Road has been a Good Road to our Forefathers, he therefore Clear the Same, that it May Be as Good as ever it has Been.

Dont Mind Brethren if May be Bad Wind (or Tydings) Should Blow In your Ears, for that Proceeds from the Devil

Will Gave a Belt of Wampum

Brethren We Also affirm to have Authorized the Commissioners Sachems to Renew the Covenant In our Name. and it Hath Also Granted to us, that Whatever is Done By us Shall Be Approved of By Both our Whole Nations

Brethren We Receive Jork Van Der Heyden as Being one of the Seventekok Nation, he Understands our Language. and if any thing Should Be Transacted he Shall Be Present

the Commissioners Replyes them

Brethren We are well Satisfyed with the Assurance you give us to Keep the Road Clear and free from all Stumbling Blocks & We Do Assure you of our Side that we will Do the Same. and Desire you of your Side Will By no Means Commit any Damage or Hostalities on any of his Majesties Subjects

Whereupon Gave them the following Good,

2 lb of Powder
50 Shirts
50 lb Tobacco
1 Gross of Pipes

Boginner Ville here and Indian

at a Meeting of the Commissioners at Albany Augst 21 1754

Present
The Mayor
the Recorder
Col. Schuyler
Genrl Glen
Jacob Cuyler
John Bleeker

A Letter was Brought from his Honour Lieutenant Governour of New York to the Commissioners of Indian affairs. of the one hand from Colo Nelson Holland Commander of his Majesties Fort at Oswego

Resolved that the same Be Answered by the first opportunity

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian
Affairs at the House of Robert Coleraine August 24th 1768
Present
Sir William Johnson Bart
Colonel Guy Johnson
Colonel Claus
Colonel Butler
John Butler Esqr
Daniel Claus Esqr
Lieut. Colonel Croghan
Captain Fraser
Captain Montour
Captain Campbell
Captain Duncan Campbell
John Deserontyon
Peter Nicholas
John Buckman

Several Mohawk Sachems and Warriors
Being Sent for to the Board, to whom the
Commissioners Communicated the Speech to,
and the Replication of the Cayenenage Sachems
and the Mohawks Sachems Expressed great
Satisfaction thereat.

Then the Cayenenage Sachems and Warriors
Being also sent for On the Receipt of the Mohawks
and Warriors to answer the Last Paragraph (vide Minutes of the 19th
Instant) which they did in the following Manner
Viz.

Brethren We Rejoice to Meet You at this our
Return, you Know the Last You, that We would Give You a
Speedy Answer to the Last Paragraph, when We Should Return
from the Mohawks. We Accordingly Now tell You, that We
Sincerely Stand to and Agree, to Every Part the Said Articles and
All and Every Article or Clause in your Proposition Concerning
the Renewing the Covenant Chain. which We also have
Entered into the Mohawks with our Brethren the Mohawks,
and we Now Repeat and do Give Out a little Distance
from Each Other our Communication from time to time with
Each other and Explain the Same. and We Promise and Assure
you that if any Bad Report should Come among us, We shall Not
Stop Our Ears, But will Communicate the Same, Where it Might
be Timely Prevented. It is Not worth while to Repeat all our Transaction
of what Past Between us; but Again Say that We Entirely
Stand to and Agree to Every Article Past Between us
And as God is Witness of Our Sincerity, Being Not Certain how
Long We Shall Live, Have Given Wampum to Be Fixed to the
Covenant Chain, and Kept the Same as long as We Live

Thereupon Gave a Large Belt of
Wampum

No 3. At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at the House of Robt Sanderson August the 4th 1754

Present
Col M:Schuiler
John Beekman
the Mayor
the Recorder
Cornelius Cuyler

Capt Rady Magin appeared to this Board to Make Report of his Journey to Onondyde (Vide Minutes of the 14th instant) He Says, he Went from hence to Schoharie where Brant Stevens joyned him. from thence to the Mohacks and Acquainted the Mohack Sachems of his Message, thence to Canajoharie where he Also Acquainted them of his said Message, thence to Onyde, when he came there he Desired the Sachems to Meet by Mr: them Acquainted them that he had heard, that Several families intended to Remove to Canada, then Enquired for Kawege one of their Sachems who lately Brought a Belt and a french flag from Canada to Invite them there, and told them they Must Not Sell their Lands, and Country, and Brethren for a french Blanket or Gun, and that the French Was Daily Busy to Steal, and Bring them to Canada. the Answer they Gave Magin was that it was Not so Bad as the Commissioners had heard it. and that a french Priest Had sent them a large Belt of Wampum, and a Song to Come to Canada to be Rebaptized, and if they could Not Come to Canada, the Priest would Come and Rebaptize them there. Whereupon Magin Desired them Not to go. they Answered, that they Could Not Well Do Less then Send the Belt and Song back Again to Canada from whence it Came. then Magin Desired them to Send a Couple of Boys who Should Not Loose the Way. then Magin Went to the Carrying Place Mr Ogden lives at Kanoge, where he Also found Seventy two of the most Principal Sachems of Onyde. then Magin Repeated the above Message — and Gave them a Belt of Wampum. Whereupon they Replyed, that they Could Not go. without first Sending a String of Wampum to the Commissioners: By which they Promised they Would Come to Albany.

And after Magin had finished his Embassy, the Sachems, they Returned one String of Wampum & desired it Might be sent to them By Mr Lydius, Mr Ogden Invited the Principal Sachems Came to his House at Albany. and Said they Could Not go if Mr Lydius desired to go with them, he Might Come to their Castle. — [illegible] Say further, that Brant [illegible] to Read the Message of the Indian Nations

at a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs at the House of Robert Leturage August 28

Present
the Mayor
the Recorder
Mr Schuyler
Jacob Glen Esq
John Beekman
Cornelius Cuyler

Peter Hogg Appeared before this Board, who informed the Commissioners that Hosack was Cut off By the French and their Indians, the Said Hogg Sworn, and his Deposition Sent Down to his Honour the Lieutenant Governour Inclosed in a Letter

Resolved that the following Be Sent Down By an Express to the Governour [illegible] Wm William Dreyer, Lucas Vielbeck, Isaac Dreyer, and Gerret Van Sante Jun'r With the following Letter

Albany August 28th 1754

May it Please your Honour

We Have Been Alarmed Since last Sabbath, on a Report of a Number of French Indians - Being Gone out a fighting towards Hosack, and Just Now Peter Hogg Appeared here who informed us that Hosack was Cut off this Day By the French and We Refer your Honour to the Inclosed for the Particulars

We Remain With Great Respect
Your Honours Most Humble Servants
Myndert Schuyler
Sybrant G. Schaick
Robert Sanders
Jacob Glen
Cornelius Cuyler
John Beekman
Hubert Marshall

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs at the House of Robert Leturage August 29 1754

Present
Mr Schuyler
Mr Marshal
The Mayor
The Recorder
Mr Beekman
Cornelius Cuyler

Resolved that a Letter Be Sent to Capt Fleming, that he forthwith Communicate to the Mohawks and Canajoharie Seachems that Hosack was Yesterday Cut off By the French Indians

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian affairs at the House of Robert Lataraye August 30th 1754

Present
The Recorder.
The Mayor
Col. Schuyler
Col Marshall
Cornelius Cuyler
Jacob Econtract
Ten Eyck
John Beekman

After We Had the Melancholly News of Hosack Being Demolished, We Sent for 4 Kagnawage Indians, Now Being in Town and Asked them, Who were the Transgressors, they Replyed No. and that Not Long Ago they had Been at Albany, and in their Return Home, When they Come at St. Johns, they Mett a Canoe with Eleven Indians and Asked them whether they Had Been at Albany, they Answered that they were Going to Schachkok to fetch their Brethren: and if that Would not Succeed they Would Go out a fighting. and after the Governour of Canada had heard their Design, he Sent for the Kagnawage Seachems, and told them, Children these Indians have an ill Design, and I Assure You that I have No Hand in it. Go Immediately on Your Seachems Business, and Let them Return Back. Whereupon the Seachems Immediately Followed them and Overtook them at Crownpoint, where they found them a Dancing (as usually they Do when they go out Fighting) they gave the Commanding officer a Letter from the Governour, With Orders to Enquire, What they Intended to Do, Whereupon the Commanding officer the Next Day Called the Chief [illegible] and Told them that he had Received a Letter from the Governour to Order them to Return Back. the Seachems Joyned the Commanding Officer in Desiring them to Return Back.

they further Say, that they Can Say No More But that they Informed the Governour, & Also the Seachems: for they thought that the Indians were Returned Back to their Country, as they Left Canada 15 Days ago and heard Not a word about it Til they Came to the Carrying Place, where they found Some Cagnawage Indians, Who had Lately Treated with the Commissioners at Albany Who had Lately Treated with the Commissioners at Albany got to Told them, that they Had Sent Down Some Thing of Consequence to Inform the Commissioners, but the Cagnawague Indians had Gone to Destroy Hosack

August 30th. The Commissioner Replyed

Brethren since it is But such a Little Time since We Renewed the Covenant With our Brethren the Cayneawages, Who Told us, that they Were Also Impowered (By the Rondax, and Annagungues, and all the Other Nations to Whom We had Sent) to Make the Covenant Stronger than Ever it hath Been, and Desired us to Be Easy and Depend thereon; and Not Be Frightned, if Maybe Bad News Should Be Reported; for they Said if any thing Ill Was Intended against us, their Allies would give us Intelligence and after that Som Annagungues Come in Person, and Acknowledged that they Had Impowered them, and gave two Large Belts of Wampon, (one for Abecantekoick and the Other for Mascasque Indians) to Confirm the Same. and Said further they Were Also Impowered By Both their Whole Nations, to open the Road, and if any thing Should Come in the Way, they Would Clean it.

We Were Astonished to hear that those Who So firmly made their Covenant, Should Go and Distroy So Many Families (who Never Did them any Hurt) By Burning and Destroying all their Wheat, Houses, and Barns, and Killing their Cattle; the Cry thereof Goes to Heaven. We Desire Our Brethren to Make this Known When you Come home and Let us Know Who Were the Transgressors, and that you Do your Endeavour to Prevent Such Murders for the future. and [illegible] that the [illegible] of [illegible] has Known this, and [illegible] to your [illegible] [illegible] by them

Notwithstanding We keep us to the Covenant Chain made with you, and Expect you Will Do the Same

Present
Col. M. Schuyler
Col. Marshall
the Mayor
the Recorder
Mr. Sharpas
John Beekman

At a Meting of the Commissioners at the House of Robert Lurtage August 31th 1754
the Mayor Delivered to this Board five Strings of Wampan, Which Killian De Peyster Esqr. this Morning to the Mayor, and Said they were Given to him, By the Cayneawague Chiefs who were here Lately and Desired him to Deliver the Same to this Board for them that they Kept themselves Strictly to what they had Promised the Commissioners

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at Albany September 5th 1754

Present
Cornelius Van Dyck
The Mayor
Jacob Glen Dick
Col M. Schuyler
Col Marshall
Johannes Beekman
The Recorder
Peter Winne

& Cagnawage Indians being sent for to this Board, who arrived Last Night in town from Canada

the Commissioners asked them whether they could not Inform them, who were the Instigators at Onondaga, and what Was the Occation, of their Murdering and Destroying the People

they Replyed that the Schaughkok Indians, have several times sent to the annagungue Indians, of St. Francis way. to Come to Come and assist them to take Revenge, for one of their Brethren Killed By Negroes in Albany and hang'd in the River, and that they Knew No other Reason, and that Neither they Nor the Governour of Canada have any hand in it, and that they Both Disswaded the same, and say further that those that have Renewed the Covenant here, are very Much Concerned About the Affair, and will Do their Utmost Endeavours to hinder their Going No for the future, they Met them agoing home

At a Meeting of the Commissioners
at Albany Sept 5th 1754

Present
Cornelius Cuyler
the Mayor
the Recorder
Jacob Ten Eyck
Col M. Schuyler
Col Marshall
Johannes Beekman
Peter Winne

Resolved that a Letter Be wrote to Major
Wemple, of which the following is a Copy

Albany 5th September 1754

Sir By Order of the Commissioners of
Indian affairs, am to Request Your Co
to Come Down to Albany, on Thursday Next
at the Governours
I am Sir Your Humble Servant
Abraham Ten Eyck Clk

Present
Col Marshall
Col M. Schuyler
the Mayor
the Recorder
Jacob Ten Eyck
John Beekman
Peter Winne

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at Albany
September 6th 1754

a Letter was Delivered to at this Board
from his Honour the Lieutenant Governour
of New York By the Express

At a Meeting of the Commissioners
at the House of Edward Williams Septem 10th 1754

Present
the Mayor
the Recorder
Col Cuyler
Jacob Ten Eyck
Col M. Schuyler
Col Marshall
Cap Winne
John Beekman

Resolved By this Board that the
following Letter Be Wrote to his Honour
the Lieutenant Governour of New York

Albany 10th Sept 1754

May it Please your Honour &c

Since a Letter Came Brought to this
Board, one from his Honour the Gover
nour, and one of Mr Berry to the same Being
Read Sent the same in Consideration Late Last Night
at 2 Clock in the afternoon

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the
House of Edward Williams, September 11th 1754

Present
the Mayor
the Recorder
Col Marshall
Col M. Schuyler
Jacob Ten Eyck
Cap Winne
Cap Beekman

several Carpenters Being Sent for
the Board asked them whether they would take upon them
the Build a Little Carrying Place at Saratoga
upon the Credit of the Province: they Replyed, that they
would Consider upon the Matter; and Give Answer to Morrow
Morning at Nine a Clock.

present
the Mayor
the Recorder
Col: Marshall
Col: Matthews
Col: Jen Eick
Col: John Bob Roseboom
Col: John Bekman
Peter Winne -

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the New
City of Albany Sept 12th 1754

Hendrick Wimpel Appeared to this Board
being asked whether he would Go to
the Onedas Country with Wendle their Nephew
of Ohn Rondeliar
Replyed that he had several sons, who Under-
stood the Indian Language, which he Presumes
they Would Do Not. and if the Government would Be Pleased
to give him Leave to take Each of his Sons along with him
he Could be able to Do all Smiths work which is there Required. He did
Therefore Request him to go, he did Not.

as the Carpenters Being sent for. Replyed that they would Not
undertake upon them to find Materials. and further if they Should go
Expected that Having their Wages Little Raised, which they
Could Not Leave to the Discretion of the Assembly, since there are
Several Examples of Others, who when they Delivered their
Accounts, to the Assembly Were Greatly Charged, Had them Cut of
Considerably

Resolved that the following Letter Be Wrote to
Colo Cosby the Lieutenant Governor

Albany 12th September 1754

May it please Your Honour

We have Conforming to Your Order &c
Replyed that the Clerk Should Advertisment, and Set them
forth up Here and at Schonectady, in the following Manner

Advertisment

Whereas His Honourable James De Lancey Esqr His Majesties Lieu-
tenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York
and Vice Admiral of the Same &c in Council Has Ordered that a
Sum of £ be Expended for Clearing a Little Carrying Place at Wood Creek
between the Two Navigable Waters of Hudsons River &c

to Employ proper Workmen Persons to Build the Same
In Obediance thereto, the Said Commissioners Give Notice to all Carpenters
Labouring Man and Waggoners, Who are Willing to work for the
Fort, to Apply to the Said Commissioners at the House of
Edward Williams on Monday the 16th Instant at Two Clock
afternoon. Albany 12th Sept 1754

By Order

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of the Indian affairs at Albany 13th September 1754
Between 30 and 40 One Seneca Chiefs and
Warriers Appeared to their Board, and Said
Brethren Onas Lately Sent a Belt & Message to us
Vide Minutes of the 15th August 1754
Present
the Mayor
Cadwallader Colden
Jacob Ten Eyck
John Beekman
John D.C. Rensselaer
Peter Schuyler

Brethren Onas Lately Sent a Belt & Message to us
Vide Minutes of the 15th August 1754
Brethren Onas heard that a great Number of
us Were Going to Canada, and Desired us not to Go, for the
Mawhawks with us, Were but a few, and Could not Protect us
We Agreed to Send the French Flag and Peter Back to
and Come home here. And as But you to Canada, for you
have got Handsom Presents, the French Understand Indian
affairs Better then Onas, You, they are More generous, and
that Draws the affections of the Indians from you to them

A Letter this Day Brought to the Board from Col. Marshall Commandant
of the Indians, giving them Notice Last Night that they were
to Dance, and Acquainted the Board that he had
Had Consulted Daniel McMichal and his Family at the
and Desires the Board to take the same into Consideration

The Commissioners Sent the following Message
Brethren We are Glad to See you Here, that We may
Smoke a Pipe together, and Chat a Message We have from
Onas Brethren being Finished We Sent Belt that We
have Made it

Brethren We heard Some time ago that a Number of you
were Ready to Remove to Canada, In order to Settle there
Sent Belt Wampum, and Desired Answer to be Imparted to
you Not to Go, you then Replyed that the News we had
Had as We had heard, that there was no Reason
to Go, to Return the Belt and Wampum to the French Fort

for Check he hearteily thanck Gan [illegible] Gan Sent for
Corpect the Carrying Cary to Speak With Cawego, Who they
Did Like wise Send and Invited him to Albany as the
Chabens Cawego Did, for he Never Been to Albeda, and
Cawego Being Nemed tree or Carendal after him, We hope
he Shall Follow His Maxime, Not to go there Also, and We
Have Appaint him to Be a Seachem In the Room of that
Seachem Called Caronda a tree, Deceased, and to Confirm him
In that Part, We Give him one Aurora Blanket, a Silver
laced hat and a Shirt

We Have Lately Received a Letter from the Gover-
nour, Who Says that he Could Not have Expected, after the
and So many Commissioners from the Several British
gouvernments had Treated with Gan In the Name of the
Great King Your Father, that Gan Wants So Soon forgit
Gan Oblidg, and Gan Promises, a to Be led away By
So Mean an Artifice of the French, Who Aim at Nothing
But Brouiling and Pelching Gan, and the Governour
Could take it very ill, if Gan Should Be So Treacherous
As to Go to the French

We are Very Sorry that We are Obliged to
Complaint Gan, that Complaints are made to us, that
Some of Gan People Yesterday at the Boreberg on their
Coming to Town Affronted, and forced Rum from
Daniel M. Michael, and Frightned Not Only his Family
But Also his Neibours Family to a Very Great Degree
and he Gan Oblidg have Been Both Ear and Eye Witnesses
of a Very Disagreable Action, that Some of Gan Men Did Last
Night, in their Coming to Town.

Now Since We are Brethren and Friends together, We
Desire Gan Not to Mouest or Abuse any of Our People.
By the Way, Not to Commit or Be guilty of Such Like
Actions, as Gan Men Did Last Night be Ware from for
the Future, for it Might Be of Bad Consequence
on Both Sides, Since Gan Know We Have Lately
Been Chastised (In time of Peace) by Gan
Brethren Enemy

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at
Albany September 4th 1754

Present

The Mayor
The Recorder
John Beekman
John B: B: Rensselaar
Ch. Wessel
Cornelius Cuyler
Jacob Ten Eyck

The Onondoe Seachems and Warriors
Replyed to the Speech of Yesterday
Between us & the Nation of the
Cayenquiragey, We have Signed it, and
find the Same to Be Good Such,
However We Shall take Care for
the future that No Such Affairs
Be Either Seachems and Warriors.

It Seems there is a Discord Between You and the Senecas
We Will Mediate the Difference as Much as Lies in our
Power, on Both Sides, and if that will not Do and he
Should Be Attacked, We Shall Joyne You, and Joyne hand
And hand, According to the Old Covenant

You Have Desired that Cayuga Should Follow the Steps of
His Predecessor Carionda, Who Never Was at Canada.
He Also Never Came here to Treat With the Governour,
But Was always Busy with the Nine Nations, to
Strengthen and Pacify them, and Did only Look this way
When You Perswaded us; Not to Go to Canada, for Said
What Will You Do there; is it for a Gun or two, You
Know our Brethren Have More Goods then they
We are Now Come here, Consider What Quantity of Goods
We Would have Got, if We had Gone to Canada with
Such a Number. We See What You are Going to Give
us, Here Say 120 Blankets & 10 Shirts With You and
Tobacco. We Desire You to Take Care of this Indian that
You Have Invited Whose affection is Naught on Your
and Brethrens Never to Go to Canada

You Some time Past Got Letters from Onia, Where in
You had Intelligence that Some of the Nine Nations
and all the Shawanese had Joyned the French (in the Old
the Old Minutes of 5th August 1754) Against Your People
and Desired that Every Nation, Should Call his People,
Were Scattered About the Country together. [illegible]
Reported Should have Joyned the French, We Sent a
Message Accordingly, But they are Returned they Say

to Be Som ire one one Side of the Mountaign and
on the Other Side that ~~is~~ they are Not to Be found
then Gave a Black Belt

Bro the ser a, We have Mentioned Just Now Of
faithfull Service to Gou, We once More tel Gou, We are
Not like the Gour Nations, Who only Talk With their
Mouths, and Dont Mean it With their Hearts, But We
Speak it from the Botom of our Hearts, that We Shall
Always Keep hand and hand Until We Dy together
thereupon Gave a Large Belt

We Desire Gou that No Rum Be Sent up the
River, there are Now Against Dead, Who Dyed from the
Rum; the Rum is Entirely the Ruin of our Nation
We Do No manner of Business; Neither Can We take Care
of the Nows

The Commissioners Replyed them
Brethren Gou Seem to Express Som Discontents
Want our Small Presents, Gou Doubtless Must
have heard, that our Governour Was here Lately, in
that he then gave to the Six Nations (By Way of Speaking)
Not Only a Housefull of Goods: as Doubtless Som of
Gou have Been Eye Witnesses of, if Not, it Must Be
Gour own fault, Since Gou Were Invited to Come
here, So that Gou have No Body to Blame But Gour
Selves: and if Gou had Not Gour Share the ser, We
look on Gou to Be Reasonable Men Enough, to Know
that, that is Neither the Governours Nor our fault, But Gour
Distributers Only; for We think that the Presents here Greater
in one Opinion then Ever We heard ~~that~~ the Governour of
Canada gave Us a Year.

Gou Must Know Brethren that We are No Gov-
ernors, But only By him Appointed here, to Receive and
Transmitt News to him and Gou, Which Gou Will find ~~the~~
Same Manner Always, Do, and We Expect that When our Governour
Comes Again Gou Will Not Stay then Come all Come
Down, and then We Believe, Gou Will Not Be Any more
Disappointed Within, and We Shall Inform our Gover-
nour that We heard them Canada, and take as much Care

of him: and You all as Con- Be Reputable Expected.
When You go home, he will give You Some Cattle
and a Waggon, and 8 Casks of Rum at Schenectade
at the Interpreters House
then a Shirt Gown for the Squaw
1 Aurora Blanket & one Do Strouds
1 pair of Aurora Stockings 1 Do Strouds
1 Hat With a Silver Lace
20 White Blankets and 10 Shirts
2 Do Jsbands & 1 Gross of Pipes
1 Black Coat

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian
Affairs at Albany September 16th 1754

Present
the Mayor
Jacob Glen Esq
the Recorder
John B. Van Rensselaer
John Beekman
Peter Van Dam
Col Marshall
Peter Winne

Several Carpenters Labouring Men and
Waggoners Appeared to this Board
Resolved that the following Letter
Be Wrote to his Honour the Lieutenant
Governor

May it Please Your Honour

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of
Indian Affairs at Albany Septemr 25th 1754

Present
the Mayor
the Recorder
Cornelius Cuyler
Col M: Schuyler
John B. V. Rensselaer
John Beekman
Jacob Glen Esq

Charles Cook an Indian of French and
Indian Extraction, and Lives in
the Cagnewage Castle, Who Chuses to
come Down, to Bring an English
Prisoner taken about 10 years ago
appeared to this Board

Who Says he Left Canada about the
8th of this Month; and arrived here, Came over
this Day, and in his Journey this way, about 3 Leags
to the North of Crown point, he met about 20 Indians
from Bikenecoor, Known By the Name of Eastern
Indians, and About 60 Canada Indians, Men
Women and Children, Aboard of a Vessel Lyeing at the
Commandant of Crown point Orders of Carron, who
told them Him, they had Been out a fighting

to Dearfield. And 5 Prisoners, 1 man, 1 Woman one
was Delivered of a Child in her journey after She was taken
and then one But Did not Know whether that was a boy
or girl. He Says he asked them what was the Reason
that they had Been out a fighting since it was Peace
they answered that, that was Nothing: for the English at
the fort N.o 4 And Some time Past Killed 2 Indians (when
at the Same time Met and Discoursed together, and Seem
to Be good friends) By Giveing them a Dram at Night
and in the Morning they Both Dead. Also the English
Some time after, Killed 3 Indians Below Dearfield. and
Because the People of New England Killed those 5 they
have Now taken 5 in the Room, and told him that they
Were Now Paid. then Proceeding to Crownpoint he found 5
More of these Eastern Indians Who had 4 Scalps
the Commissioners Asked him, Whether they had Been with
them he answered first. He Says the three Scalps, they had taken
Below Dearfield. he Says further that he Never Heard that
Spanish Was Out at Before he Came to Lake Sacrema
[illegible]

the Commissioners Asked him, Whether he thought,
the Governour Generall Could Not take the Hatchet Sometime
Answered yes Sure, Else they Would Be More then Beaten,
Since So Lately they had Been here to Treat With the
Commissary. The Comm.r further Asked him Whether
the News of War had arrived in Canada, Replies Yes
and Brought News that there Was No Likelihood of War
they Also Asked him About this
He Replies that the People Returned all from there, Encamping Some in one Each part. and those that were Returned there were Mostly Sick of the fever, and were About 4 or five Hundred in Number. the Cagnawaga Seachems
just Arrived in Canada when he Came away.
The Person Brought here By Charles Cook Says the
Governour of Canada, and the Commander of Crownpoint
had Expected an Ambassador from here

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany September the 21st 1754.

Charles Cook (an Indian of French and Indian Extraction and living in the Cachnawage Castle, who came Down chiefly to bring an English Prisoner taken about ten years ago) appeared before this Board, and says he left Canada about the 8th of this Month, and arrived here this day, and on his way about 3 leagues to the North of Crown Point, he met 21 Indians from Bickencoor, known by the name of Eastern Indians, and about 60 Schachkook Indians, Men Women and Children aboard 4 Vessel shipt by the Commandant of Crown Point, for want of Canoes, who told him they had been a fighting to Dearfield, and had five Prisoners, 1 Man, 2 Women one of which was delivered of a Child on her Journey after she was taken; and one more but did not know whether it was a Boy or a Girl. He says he asked them what was the Reason they had been out a fighting, since it was Peace; they answered that that was nothing, for the English at the Fort N°. 4 had some time past, poisoned two Indians (when at the same they were sitting and discoursing together and seemed to be good Friends) by giving them a Dram at Night, and in the Morning they were both dead; also that the English some time after Killed three Indians below Dearfield: and because the People of New England killed those five, they had now taken five in their Room, and that they were now fried: Then proceeding to Crown Point, he found five more of those Eastern Indians, who had four Scalps.

The

The Commissioners asked him, if they had been with the Party he met at first, he said Yes, they had taken these Scalps below Bear Field: and further, that he did not hear Oswego was destroyed, until he came to Lake St. Sacrament, where he was informed of it by the Mohawks.

The Commissioners then asked him whether he thought the Cachnewaga Indians, would not take the Hatchet from them, to which he answered yes sure or else they would be worse than Brutes, since they had been so lately here to treat with the Commissioners.

Being asked if the Man of War was arrived in Canada, replyed yes, and brought News there was no likelihood of a War.

And being asked about Ohio, said, the People were all returned from thence, except 40 Soldiers, 20 in each Fort; and that those returned were mostly sick of the Fever, and were about 4 or 500 in number.

A true Extract Examined in New York this 30 September 1754

By Jno Barclay Secry

N.658. John Harris to Gov. Hamilton 1754 —

May it please your Honnour

At the Earnest Request of Monacatootha one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations I take this opportunity to Inform your Honnour, of the death of the half King, who departed this Life, last night; there is about Twenty Indians here who waits to See him buried, and then Intends for Aughwick, Immidately; he likewise desired that the melancholy news, might be forwarded, with all possible Dispatch, to his Honnour the Governor of Virginia; those Indians that are here, blame the French, for his death, by bewitching him, as they had a Conjurer to enquire into the Cause a few days, before he died, and it is his opinion, together with his Relations, that the French have been the cause, of their great Mans death by reason of his striking them lately, for which they seem to threaten imediate Revange, and desired me to Let it be known; All the Indians that are here are in great trouble especially his Relations, I have sent an account, to Conrad Weiser at Shamokin, this Day who I Expect will be down, upon Notice; I humbly presume, that his death, is a very great loss especially at this Critical Time,

I am your Honours, most obedient & most humble Serv[t]

Paxton October 5th 1754 — John Harris.

× The Gov[r] alludes to another letter giving also an account of the death of the Half King from Mr H dated Oct 29 to which may be found Colon. Rec. vol. VI. p 184.

giving an Acct of
the Death of the Halfking
Paxton Octr 5th 1754

Read in Council 14 Octr 1754

To

The Honourable James Hamilton Esq:
Governor & Commander in Chief
in the Province of Pennsylvania.
in Philadelphia.

No 7.

Canajoharie Castle
May it Please your Honour! October the 6th 1764

We the hereafter subscribed Chiefs of the Castle
humbly

That whereas

have arisen about the different Deeds
of Sale to the Wheelbarger
this by Reason that not agreeing
a Indian Interpreter by the Name
of the same Land.

We therefore humbly Request your Honour
would please to direct that for the
future by every
of the Castle may have Power
Sleeves the Proprietors Interpreter in order
to prevent Disputes that may arise
Such people.

We hope as the
your Honour

October 6: 1754

The Petition of the Commissioners
Claiming Land the Province
Shall Judge Fit to Grant
to survey the Lands in Hobbs
Town

Read & Ordered

New York 8th October 1754

135

My Lords

Duplicate

28.

With my last of the 22d July, a Dupliate of which I now inclose, I transmitted to your Lordships the proceedings of the commissioners at Albany, and two papers, the one drawn up by Colonel Johnson, the other by Mr Pownal, and did then acquaint your Lordships that I had ordered Circular Letters to call the assembly together on the 20th of August: they met accordingly, and I pressed them to give assistance to Virginia conformable to their former Resolution on the Earl of Holdernesse's Letter, urging the great necessity there then was from Colonel Washington's Defeat. I had the good fortune to prevail on them to grant the Sum of two thousand pounds for that service, out of which I was to detain three hundred forty eight pounds and seven pence half penny, which I had before advanced for victualling the two Independent Companies sent by his Majesty's command to Virginia; the remainder I have sent by Mr Dinwiddie's order with Captain Julian Legg of his Majesty's Ship Sheerham

To

The Right Hon.ble the Lords Comm.rs for Trade & Plant.rs

to Virginia, who sailed Yesterday. Your Lordships will observe the money was made payable to me, for which I issued a Warrant in Council, so that I got over that point of having the money paid by the Treasurer on Council which had occasioned the loss of the thousand pounds before.

On the 28 August a party of French Indians said to be of Bekancourt, a place between Quebec and Montreal, made an incursion in this Province, and burnt the Houses and Barns full of grain at Noweh, a place lying about 18 or 20 Miles East from that part of Hudson's River, which is 10 Miles above Albany: they carried off with them the few remaining Indians of Seachtacook, being between fifty and sixty in Number Men Women and Children; these had a little before, when I was at Albany, assured me of their fidelity. The Indians who did this mischief live among the French, and are entirely under the direction of the General of Canada, so that there is no room to doubt of their being encouraged to this Barbarity by him, especially as the French officer at Crown Point furnished them and the Seachtacook Indians, whom they have drawn from this Province, with a Vessel to carry them back to Canada across the Lake Champlain. — I have received information that the French Indians have also made incursions into Massachusets-Bay

and

and New Hampshire, and taken prisoners and scalpt some of his Majestys Subjects. The Settlers of this province escaped, as notice was given of the design by some Cagnawaga Indians a few days before. The View of the French in these measures, appears to me to be no other, than to keep these provinces in perpetual allarm, and so disable them from assisting Virginia, by engaging their whole attention on the defence of their own Frontiers. I shall endeavour to bring the assembly into providing money for the building Forts in such places, as may in some measure secure the Settlements on the Borders.

This Province has been at a great expence in Building Forts and Batteries for its security, and much money has been laid out not so advantageously as it might have been, had a person of Skill formed a plan of the Works; and as the assembly I conceive are willing to raise money for Building Forts and other works for the Security and Defence of this province, on which the French have long had an Eye, I would intreat your Lordships intercession with his Majesty, that he would be graciously pleased to appoint an Engineer for this province that the monies given for Fortifications may be employed to more advantage for the future

I inclose the printed proceedings of the assembly the councils Address and a copy of the Act. I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

most obedient & most

humble Servant James Delancey

New York.

Letter from James De Lancey Esqr. Lieut. Govr. & Commander in Chief of New York, dated the 8th of October 1754, to the Board, acquainting that he has that the Assembly have granted £5000. for the Assistance of Virginia; & that the French Indians have made Incursions into the Massachusetts, New Hampshire & New York.

Rec.d Dec.r 5.
Read — 9.o
1754.

KK 28.

TO

The Honourable JAMES DE LANCEY, *Esq;*
His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over the Province of New-York, *and the Territories depending thereon in* America.

The Humble ADDRESS of the Council of the Province of *NEW-YORK.*

May it please your HONOUR,

WE return you our most humble Thanks for your Speech.

We are truly sensible of the Importance of those Matters you have been pleased to lay before us.—When the Dignity of the Crown is insulted; the Welfare of *Great-Britain* attacked, and the Property of our Fellow Subjects invaded; can Englishmen, can We, who are under so many Ties of Duty and Gratitude; We, who so often have made Profession of Duty and Loyalty to the best of Kings; hesitate one Moment to exert with Indignation, our utmost Efforts of Resentment? Surely not! We therefore beg Leave to assure your Honour, That we will chearfully concur in every proper Measure, that can in any Ways conduce to the defeating those perfidious Schemes, concerted by a Nation void of Sincerity, and regardless of all Faith and Treaties.

Permit us, SIR, to add, that there is nothing in our Power shall be wanting, wherein we can, by any Means, contribute to the Honour of your Administration.

By Order of the Council,

ARCHIBALD KENNEDY, *Speaker.*

City of *New-York*,
22*d* August, 1754.

The GOVERNOR's ANSWER.

GENTLEMEN,

I *Return you Thanks for your Address.*

The Loyalty you express to His Majesty, the best of Kings, and your Zeal to defeat the Schemes of the French, *are very agreable to me..*

I am obliged to you for the Assurances, that Nothing shall be wanting in your Power, that can contribute to the Honour of my Administration.

JAMES DE LANCEY.

Fort-George, New-York,
22*d August*, 1754.

New York

Address of ye Council
of New York, to Lieu^t. Govr
De Lancey, & his Answer,
ye 22^d. of August 1754.

Rec.^d with his Letter
dated ye 8.th Octr 1754.

Rec.^d Dec.^br 10.th
Read Ditto. } 1754.

K K. 33.

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Anno vicesimo octavo GEORGII *secundi Regis.*

CHAP. I.

An ACT *for paying* Five Thousand Pounds, *for and towards assisting the Colonies of* Virginia *and* Pennsylvania, *to dispossess the* French *and* Indians, *who have settled and erected Forts on His Majesty's Lands, on the River* Ohio, *and Parts adjacent thereto.*

WHEREAS the *French*, and *Indians* in their Alliance, have invaded, settled and erected several Forts, on His Majesty's Lands, within or near the Governments of *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania*: And the Government of *Virginia*, by Direction of His Majesty, have raised Forces, and desired the Aid and Assistance of the neighbouring Governments, to expel the said *French* and *Indians*, from their Encroachments aforesaid. And the General Assembly, being heartily willing to aid and assist them in the said Undertaking, as far as the Circumstances of the Colony will admit.

I. Be it Enacted *by his Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Council, and the General Assembly, and it is hereby Enacted by the Authority of the same*, That the Treasurer shall pay the Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, for and towards the said Undertaking; *that is to say*, the Sum of *Six Hundred and Ninety Five Pounds*, out of the Monies arisen by Virtue of an Act, entitled, *An Act to restrain Hawkers and Pedlars within this Colony, from selling without Licence*; and the remaining Sum of *Four Thousand Three Hundred and Five Pounds*, out of any other Money now in the Treasury, not appropriated to the annual Support of Government. Which said Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, the Treasurer shall pay unto his Honour the Lieutenant Governor of this Colony; out of which said Sum of *Five Thousand Pounds*, his Honour may retain in his own Hands, the Sum of *Three Hundred Forty-eight Pounds and Seven Pence Half-penny*, for Monies advanced by him, for victualling and transporting two Independent Companies of His Majesty's regular Forces to *Virginia*, on the aforesaid Enterprize; and the remaining Sum of *Four Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-one Pounds Nineteen Shillings and Four Pence Half-penny*, shall be paid by his Honour, unto such Person or Persons, as the Governor or Commander in Chief of the Colony and Dominion of *Virginia*, by Order under the Great Seal, issued by the Advice and Consent of His Majesty's Council of the said Colony, shall appoint to receive the same; to be employed in such Manner, as the said Governor or Commander in Chief, shall think most proper, for attaining the Ends for which the same is given.

II. And be it Enacted *by the Authority aforesaid*, That the aforesaid Sum of *Four Thousand Three Hundred and Five Pounds*, shall be repaid into the Treasury, in such Manner as shall be hereafter directed, by Act or Acts, to be passed for that Purpose.

This Act was published the 29th Day of August, 1754.

New-York

An Act for paying
Five Thousand Pounds

Rec.d with Lieu.t Gov.r De-
lancey's Lett.r of y.e 8.th Oct.r 1754.

Rec.d Dec.r 10.th } 1754:
Read Ditto. }

Kk.

32 X 33

Sir 47 Sixthbridge Feb.y 9.th 1754

I returnd from Albany Last night, should be glad to transmit to you, all the conversation I had with the Cohnuhsawaguh Sachems, who are come to albany to treat of the affairs of peace. I clearly discover, that the present design, is to keep the way open from Canada to Albany. Coll. Lydius, is fully of the opinion that matters are concerted, so as to gain the time that we might rest secure till they are better able to give a severer Stroke. With the Albanians every thing must give way to the darling point of trade. When I querid with the Canadians, why we had such hostilities acted upon us, at a time when there was no war between the princes, to which they and we respectively belongd? the Sachems replyd that they understood the matter thus, That the Seatcocks sent to the Crendocks, which are the same that are otherways called Muhhuhwau, and the onuhgunges, to come and revenge themselves for the death of several of their men, killd by the English, and to keep them to peace.

In another Conversation, with different persons from Cohnuhsawaguh, on my asking them questions relating to the war they said that the Onuhgunges waited on the Governer of Canada, & said, Father the English have abusd us, in driving us from our Lands, and taking them from us. The Onuhgunges was inhabitants of the Connecticut river, formerly drove away as I take it in Philips war, are the same originally with the seatcocks. The Governer replyd, children,

the

The Land is not mine, but yours You must assert your own right, This was to the purpose and when the Mohock saw that Col Lydius & I, were taking hold of it, he said the Governor did not send them, but disliked their proceeding. We propos'd several things more, as why if they were so engag'd for peace, did they send men from the Castles, of Canuhwaruh to Oneo, they said that was only to chastise the english a little.

We further propos'd how, about 30 Canoes containing a hundred & twenty men, as they themselves cou'd there was, should set out on that Expedition, without the Consent & assistance of the Governor, they replyed that that the Governor did not do it. They were instructed in their Lesson when, upon the whole, I determin the case stands thus, that the Seaticooks invited, the other Indians perhaps, by advice, to come to them, and do as was said above, the Indians accepted of the invitation, but the Governor know the matter, & he favour'd it, supposing a blow struck, at that time, would be seasonable for their future designs. You may inform Mr Williams, his Sister was well the other day, her husband I saw at Albany, also John Tarbell came in the capacity of an Ambassador. I should be glad to know, whether it is likely I shall obtain money for the purchase, of these Lands about us, the Indians are continually at me, and I cant assure them of any thing, because I know nothing how the matter is provided for, only Maj[r] Williams informd me, that money was left with you, to purchase withal. I should be glad to be inform'd how the affair is like to turn out. I am Sr Your

Most obedient

To John Worthington Esq[r] Humbly Servant, Sim[n] Wesbridge

P.S. they told me they met a Captive woman [illegible] of Jacobs Esq[r] way

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Timothy Woodbridge to Col.o John Worthington dated at Stockbridge Oct.r 4. 1754.

"I returned from Albany last Night, should be glad "to transmit to you, all the conversation I had with the Cohnuh= "nawaghun Sachems, who are come to Albany to treat of the Affairs "of Peace. I clearly discover that the present design is, to keep the "way open from Canada to Albany. Col.o Lydius is fully of the "Opinion that matters are concerted, so as to gain the time that "we might rest secure till they are better able to give a severer "Stroke: With the Albanians every thing must give way to the "darling point of trade when I quarrel with the Canadians, "why we had such Hostilities acted upon us, at a time when "there was no War between the Princes to which they and we "respectively belonged? the Sachems reply'd that they understood "the Matter thus, That the Scatecooks sent to the Cromdocks which "are the same that are otherways called Muhhuhwau, and the "Onuhgungos, to come and revenge themselves for the Death of "several of their Men, killed by the English and to help them to Canada

"In another Conversation with different Persons from "Cohnukwaugah, on my asking them Questions relating to the "War, they said that the Onuhgungos waited on the Governor of "Canada, and said Father the English have abused us, in driving "us from our Lands, and taking them from us, (the Onuhgungos "was inhabitants on Connecticut River formerly drove away as "I take it in Philips War, are the same originally with the Scatecooks)

1754

"The Governor replied, children the Land is not mine
"but yours, you must assert your own right this was to the
"purpose and when the Mohock saw what we wanted to gain
"from them that Col. Lydius and I were taking hold of it he
"said the Governor did not send them, but disliked their
"proceedings we proposed several things more, as why if they
"were so engaged for Peace did they send Men from the Castles
"of Cohnuhwaugah to Ohio, they said that was only to chastise
"the English a little. We further proposed how about 60
"Canoes containing a hundred and twenty men as they
"themselves owned there was, should set out on this Expedition,
"without the Consent & assistance of the Governor they replied
"in short the Governor did not do it. They were instructed in their
"Lesson before hand and upon the whole I determine the case
"stands thus, that Scatecooks invited the other Indians perhaps
"by the Advice, to come to them, and do as was said above, The
"Indians accepted of the Invitation, let the Governor know the
"Matter, and he favoured it; supposing a blow struck at this
"time would be seasonable for their future designs.

Copy Examined J. Wm. Claikl Dpty Secry

Woodbridge to John Worthington
Esq. dated at Stockbridge Oct. 3

Albany 10th October 1754

73:530

May it Please your Honour

We Received yours of 28th Ultimo We Shall Send Governor Sinwiddies Speech with the Belts up to Onondage, with a Proper Person, Capt Lynne will Deliver the Contents of the Belts, for Said Purpose.

Here Inclosed We Send your Honour, the Fee Minutes of all our Proceedings, since the 27th Ultimo, together with the Letters, one from the Missionaries and one from the Governor of Canada, the Same Being Translated.

10 We have a Vast Deal of trouble, With the Business of the Indian affairs, and our Money is Exhausted Long Since, which we hope your Honour will Recommend to the Assembly, to Enlarge the Same,

the 7 Deligates from Canada, Sent hence this Day.

We are Your Honours Most Obediant Humble Servant

Hilyndert Schuyler
Cornelis Cuyler
Victor Wynne
Sybrant Van Schaick
Jacob C. Van Eyck
John Baptist V. Bonsfoedar
Jno Beekman

To
The Honorable
James De Lancey Esqr
His Majestys Lieutenant
and Commander in Chief
&c

10 Oct. 1764.

From the Commrs for
Indian affairs
Oct. 31 P.M. Read in
Council

I sent scouts out as far as the camp, 20 men to sustain them, and I advanced in order, when I was informed that we were discovered; that the English were approaching in the line of battle to attack us, and hard by; I ordered my men to form themselves in a suitable manner for a bush fight. It was not long before I discovered that my scouts had misled me, and I ordered the troops to advance on that side where we might be attacked. As we had no knowledge of the locality, we presented our flank to the fort, whence they began to fire cannon on us; almost at the same time I perceived the English on the right coming in order of battle against us. The Indians, as well as we, set up a great shout and advanced towards them, but they did not give us time to fire before they wheeled into an intrenchment adjoining their fort, which we, then, prepared to invest; it was situated advantageously enough in a meadow, within a musket shot of the wood. We drew as near them as possible, that we might not expose his Majesty's subjects to no purpose.

The fire was very brisk on both sides, and I selected that place which appeared to me the best to resist a sortie. We succeeded in silencing (so to say) the fire of their cannon with our musketry. 'Tis true, the ardor and zeal of our Canadians and soldiers made me uneasy, because I saw that in a short time we should perhaps be out of ammunition. M[r] le Mercier proposed to me to have fascines constructed to secure our posts, and hem in the English, during the night, in their fort, and wholly prevent them leaving it. I ordered M[r] de Bayeul to go and collect as many men as possible to succor the quarter that would be attacked in case of a general sortie. We took during that time some *caches* of provisions, ammunition and goods which circumstance encouraged the Indians and the Militia.

The enemy's fire increased towards six o'clock in the evening with more vigor than ever, and lasted until eight. As we were all the day under the rain, and as the detachment was tired and the Indians sent me word that they would depart next day, etc., a cessation of hostilities was proposed to the English, and a captain came to speak to us. The conditions of the capitulation were accepted. (They are annexed.)

The English have had 70 @ 80 men killed or mortally wounded, and many others slightly.

The Canadians have had 2 men killed, Desprez, Junior, and the Panis, belonging to Mr Péan, and 70 wounded, two whereof are Indians.[1]

M. Duquesne to M. de Machault.[2]

My Lord,

I have the honor to report to you what has occurred at the posts during the year.

[1] M. de Villiers' Journal is published at length, together with the capitulation of Fort Necessity, in the Duke de Choiseul's Memorial.

[2] Jean Baptiste Machault of Arnouville, was born 13th December, 1701. He became President of the Grand Council in 1738; Intendant of Hanaut in 1743, and in 1745, Comptroller-General of the finances. On 9th December, 1750, he received the additional appointment of Keeper of the Seals; he succeeded M. Rouillé 28th July, 1754, in the Colonial department, and organized the fleet which defeated Admiral Byng. Through the intrigues of Mme. Pompadour, he was sent, 31st January, 1757, into exile with Count d'Argenson (*supra*, p. 29), where he remained until the fall of the Bastile. In 1792, he removed to Rouen, whence he was taken in 1794, by the agents of the Revolutionary Government, and lodged, as a person suspected, in the prison of Madelonettes, where he died on the 13th July of the same year, in the 93d year of his age, without being permitted, by his inhuman jailers, even the assistance of a physician. *Biographie Universelle.* The French post at the mouth of French creek, Pennsylvania, was called, in his honor, Fort Machault. — Ed.

The Indians of the North are very quiet because Sieur Marin, who commands at The Bay and leads the Indians at will, has procured repose for them by the peace he has caused to be concluded with the Christinaux.

The Sauteux of Camanestigwia and Michipicoton have had a difficulty among themselves. Seventeen of them have been killed, but this animosity, which is at present abated, has been prejudicial only to the hunting, and they are now quiet.

Chevalier de Repentigny, who commands at the Sault St. Mary, is busily engaged with the settlement of his post, which is essential for stopping all the Indians who come down from Lake Superior to go to Choueguen, but I do not hear it said that this post yields a great revenue.

The Poutwatamis, Kickapoux, Maskoutins and Scioux of the prairies, have assembled together to go and destroy the Peorias, who, for a long time, regard with insolence the other Indians; they are, moreover, people of no faith, who steal, with impunity, even in their neighbors' cabins.

This war, in which I am not at all interested, can be productive only of a good effect in putting down such banditti; I have, nevertheless, ordered the Commandants to adjust all matters after these rascals will have received a sharp lesson.

As I had fixed for the Peanguichias to be at the Miamis where Sieur Péan would pass, and as those Indians have waited for that officer with all possible patience, nearly a month, evincing great repentance for their fault, I have ordered the Commandant of the Wyatanons, whither that nation had retired, to grant them pardon on condition that they would bring me, next year, the murderers; by this means it may be calculated that these Indians have at present submitted.

The Cherakis, who, for a year, had a French prisoner in their village, whom they treated very civilly, have sent him back to M[r] de Kerlerec, saying to him, if you are grateful for the good treatment we have shown you, go tell our Father that we are desirous of having a firm peace with him, and you will come and bring us back his answer.

M[r] de Kerlerec, who feared that reasons of policy did not permit the acceptance of this peace, demanded my authority to conclude it, if I thought it proper; I consented because none of our Indians go to fight the Cherakis, but really the Flatheads and Techichas, whom it is necessary to reserve in order to have a bone to gnaw. This Governor advises me that it is a consequence of my movements and that all his Indians are enchantingly docile.

M. Macarty sent me word that it would be necessary, after this peace, to built a fort at the mouth of the Cherakis river,[1] which falls into the lower part of the Oyo, but I have answered him, that though I should judge it very necessary, the state of the King's finances could not meet that increased expense.

Abbé Piquet's mission, reputed by our domiciliated Indians to be made up of spies of the Five Nations, has just given the strongest proofs of attachment and fidelity, by sending me the medals the English had presented to some of that village who had furtively assisted at the Council at Orange, and they have expelled one of their brethren who was suspected of having an English heart. This mission is improving, and the Abbé Piquet's presence can only increase their good dispositions.

Acadia is a gulf of indispensable expense, and the Abbé Leloutre has taken the axe in hand for the aboiteaux,[2] which must render it very fertile, but the Fort at Point Beausejour is hardly

[1] Tennessee river.

[2] This is a local expression, signifying a dam in a creek, with a gate which closes and prevents the entrance of the tide; at the same time a causeway or levee is constructed from the dam between the low land and tide water. *Collections of Quebec Literary and Historical Society*, 1838, p. 31, note. — Ed.

in a state of defence, inasmuch as the settlers who work at it are incredibly lazy. Sieur de Verger, the Commandant there, does his best to encourage them at this work, which is important under actual circumstances; this officer informs me that a fleet of four ships has arrived at Halifax, and that another of a like number is expected; this appears to me to be an indication that Old England proposes something on that side, for the English are bringing considerable people there.

It seems to me that by the census of the Island of St. John, which has been sent me by Sieur de Bonaventure, formerly Commandant there, that place is going to be considerable, if the harvest has been good; it would in that case be the granary of Louisbourg and of Acadia.

I never thought of establishing a post at Peskadamokauti before having received your orders, especially since Father Germain has assured me that not a farmer could be placed there, inasmuch as it is all rock. I have, meanwhile, informed Sieur de Boishebert, who commands at the River St. John, to repair thither whenever he can, in order to have a correct draught of it, and I expect that officer will render me an exact account thereof.

Agreeably to your orders, I have sent Sieur Pellegrin to the Seven Islands; from the plan he has drawn of the place I have remarked that it would take at least two batteries to prevent any of the enemy's ships anchoring there, which would cost an immense sum, not only for their construction but also for the maintenance of the garrisons, because the soil there is good for nothing. 'Tis true that the anchorage is excellent.

I am with most profound respect,

Sir,

Your most humble and

most obedient servant,

Quebec, the 13th 8ber, 1754. DUQUESNE.

M. Duquesne to M. de Machault.

Quebec, 28th October, 1754.

My Lord,

I have received the letter you did me the honor to write me on the 19th of August last, which reached me on the 22nd instant, wherein you are pleased to inform me of the views the King of England has manifested up to the present time, for the maintenance of peace, and that you presume he has not authorized the movements on the River Oyo.

Without referring you, my Lord, to all that I have had the honor to submit to you in my last despatches, I have to observe to you, in addition, that it is not possible that the King of Great Britain has not consented to and even ordered all the movements which the English are making on this Continent, and the consequences thereof appear to me very just.

1st The Governors of New England, besides being independent one of the other, cannot levy troops without an order of the King of Great Britain, and you will have observed by Mr Washington's Journal that all the Provinces have furnished a quota to his detachment. I know, moreover, that the Quakers, who never make war, have also furnished their contingent.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday the 14th October 1754.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn, Joseph Turner, Robert Strettell, Richard Peters } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Secretary laid before the Council the Papers relating to the late Treaty at Aucquick, vizt. M^r. Hamilton's Letter to M^r. Croghan — His Instructions to M^r. Weiser — M^r. Weiser's Letter to him, and the Journal of his Proceedings; all which were read, together with a Letter from M^r. Croghan of the thirtieth of August and a Letter from Captain Scobo ..... therein enclosed, and ordered to be laid before the Assembly and then entered.

Governor Hamilton's Letter to M^r. George Croghan.

Philadelphia 23^d. August 1754

Sir

Your Express arrived on Tuesday afternoon and delivered me your Letter of the sixteenth Instant, enclosing Four different Parcels of Wampum, your account of Expences for the Supply of Indian Provisions now at Aucquick, and a Copy of Lieutenant Scobo's Letter from Fort Duquesne to the Commanding Officer of the Virginia Forces

I wish it had arrived when the Assembly was sitting, but as they had finished the Business of the Year, and had separated on Saturday, I could do no better than lay it before the Council, and take the advice of such Members as were in Town.

By them it was concluded, that M^r. Weiser, who was fortunately in Town should go and consult with You and confer with the Indians, and take with him for their Use a Supply of Money, as well to defray the Expences that have already accrued as what may accrue, till the Legislature shall come to a Determination what Measures to pursue in the present Exigency of Affairs — He will likewise assist in putting Matters into such a frugal Channel and Order with the Indians, that no more may be expended than is necessary, for You must be sensible, that a great Expence is likely to accrue to the Province, and that all Methods imaginable ... should be used to husband the publick Money.

That the Indians may not be discouraged, or imagine Us wanting in a just Sense of their and our Danger, or in an hearty Disposition to oppose and repel the French, M^r. Weiser has my Instructions to acquaint them, that notwithstanding the present Appearances of great Backwardness in our Inhabitants, yet it is entirely owing to an unfortunate Disagreement between me and the Assembly about the Mode of raising the Money — But as the Time fixed by me for my Administration draws to a Period, and a new Governor is hourly expected to arrive, We entertain good hopes that this Difference will no longer continue, but give Way to a perfect Harmony, and that fitting Supplies will be immediately raised, and this Province concur with Virginia in vigorous Efforts to repel the common Invader.

I hope You will study to oblige M^r. Weiser, and that He and You will perfectly agree together, and tho it may not be prudent, as it cannot be known what the future Governor

and

and Assembly will do, to give the Indians too large Expectations of Supplies, yet they should not be discouraged by any means. You will therefore consult in what manner to deliver these Sentiments to the Indians so as to steer between the two Extremes.

I expect You will omit no opportunity of giving me full Information of all Occurrences worthy of Relation, or of assuring the Indians that We shall always behave to them with the utmost Affection and Kindness.

If the Indians be permitted to drink strong Liquors, it will be impossible for them to exert their Strength, or to preserve their Understanding, I must therefore be importunate with You to prevent all such Liquors from being carried to them on any Pretence whatever; and I order You to stave every Cask wherein any are found, and to return to me the Names of such of the Inhabitants as shall presume to bring strong Liquors among the Indians, that they may be dealt with according to Law; nor let them think that they shall escape as they have hitherto done, since it is now determined to spare none of these Offenders.

I may venture to assure You, that your Services will be duly considered, and that a prudent Behaviour in the Management of such an important Concern as is now committed to your Care will recommend You to the Favour of the Government, who will be thereby engaged to give You all becoming Encouragements.

Mr. Weiser goes by his own House, where He will not stay more than a day, so that You may expect him very soon after this Messenger. I am

Sir

Your humble Servant

James Hamilton.

#

Instructions to Conrad Weiser Esquire.

Having received by Express a Message from (the Half King) Tanacharison and .... Scarrooyady, who with some Shawonese and Delawares came lately to Aucquick and ..... intend to stay there, I have by the Advice of Council and with the Approbation of the Speaker and such other Members of the Assembly as live in Town thought proper to send You to Aucquick; where You are to enquire of Mr. Croghan, what they have at any time said to him of their Dispositions and future Intentions as well as of those of the Twightwees, Owendaets, Shawonese and Delawares respecting the present Hostilities of the French.

You are to learn if possible, if any and what Directions have been given them for their Behaviour towards the English or French from the Council of Onondago, or any of the Six Nations their Fathers, or whether they or which of them have ever encouraged the French — ..... particularly enquire about the Disposition of the Senecas.

When You have received Information of these and all other necessary matters, then You are to consult with Mr. Croghan and deliver the following Answer.

Brethren,

The Governor sent me Express to acknowledge and thank You for your Message by Mr. Croghan, and to bid You welcome to Aucquick, and to enquire after your Health and that of your Families.

Brethren,

You have done right to put Yourselves under the Protection of this Province. We shall make all necessary Provision for You, till the Government shall come to some Determination respecting the present Situation of Affairs.

Brethren,

Brethren,

Our present Governor's administration, agreeable to what has been sometime ago fixed by himself, draws to a Period. A new Governor is appointed, and is hourly expected. This renders it difficult for Us to know what to do. We are all disposed to concur with Virginia and to repel the French, but are waiting for the arrival of the new Governor, that it may be done more effectually.

Brethren,

This being the case, the Governor who is your hearty Friend desires You will be quiet and remain where You are, till the Governor of Virginia, or He, or both together, who I believe are determined to strike the French this Fall, send to You to let You know their Determination, and what they expect from You.

As to the Speeches made by the Shawonese and Delawares to the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia, which were delivered to Mr. Croghan and the Half King, consult with Mr. Croghan about the particulars thereof, and return such answers as are consistent with the Treaties subsisting between Us and the present Circumstances of our Affairs.

You are to declare to the Inhabitants, that they will be severely punished if they presume on any Consideration to carry strong Liquors to Aucquick; and You are to charge the Indians to stave all the Casks, and if they will not do it, You are to insist on Mr. Croghan's doing it.

The Distribution of the three hundred Pounds is committed to your Care, in ..... which You may consult with Mr. Croghan, and when You have settled everything to your Mind, Mr. Croghan, after your Departure, will be better able to continue Matters in the same Course You shall have put them in.

James Hamilton.

Philadelphia
24th August 1754.

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Mr. Weiser.

Honourd Sir

I have the Pleasure to let You know that I am safe arrived from Aucquick ..... yesterday, and herein enclosed is a Copy of my Journal, in which I have been perhaps too copious. It was chiefly done for my own Memory, and at last I thought proper to send a Copy thereof as it is, I hope your Honour will find a leisure Hour to read it. I send herein enclosed also an account of the Money I was trusted with by your Honour. I am sensible I did not every where act according to the Instruction if literally to be taken, but I hope no Fault will be found when it is considered, that if I had the laying out of all the three hundred Pounds and bought Provisions for it at Aucquick, or rather among the Inhabitants, the Carriage and the Distribution of it must have been left to Mr. Croghan, he might (if he intended it) ... purloin a great deal of it, but I have the Opinion of him that he will do Justice. I counted above twenty Cabbins about his House, and in them at least two hundred Indians, Men, ... Women and Children, and a great many more are scattered thereabouts, some two or three miles off, and frequently come to fetch Meal at Mr. Croghans; he has between twenty five and thirty Acres of the best Indian Corn that ever I saw, he sends his Servants every day to fetch four or five Bags full of roasting Ears for them, but there is not an hour in the day, but what some steal into it and fetch more; and upon the whole, it is my Opinion they will destroy one half of it, before

it

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it can be gathered in, to say nothing of the Butter, Milk, Squashes, Pumpkins they daily fetch, for all which if he be not allowed he must be a great Loser; I advised him to charge for it what was reasonable, and to get two or three credidable Men (as often come there from the inhabited Parts) to value the Corn that the Indians took away, and certify it. I cannot see what can be done else. Mr. Croghan must either be trusted to buy and distribute Provision, or the Government must keep a Man there in whom they can confide to receive the Provision from Mr. Croghan or those that bring it, and so distribute it according to the Governors ..... Instructions; however, I believe the Indians will scatter before the Winter comes; at least some of them, the Bloody Flux got among some of them, and Lewis montour, Andrew's Brother, disturbs them often by bringing strong Liquor to them, they cannot help buying and ..... drinking it when it is so near, and Lewis sells it very dear to them, and pretends that his ... Wife which is an ugly Indian Squa does it, he sends Indians to the Inhabitants to fetch it for him, and Mr. Croghan can by no means prevent it because they keep it in the Woods about or within a mile from his House, and there the Indians will go (after having Notice) and drink their Cloathing and so come back to George Croghan's drunk and naked. It is a surprizing thing that no means can be found to prevent the Inhabitants in ... Cumberland County from selling strong Liquor to the Indians, I am credibly informed, that some of the Magistrates of that County sells the most. Mr. Smith was at Aucquick, I suppose to gather some Money for Liquor he sent, he is an old Hypocrite, told me that the Governor ought not to suffer any strong Liquor to come to Aucquicks; I asked him whether he would have the Governor to come up with his Sword and Pistol to prevent it; no said he, well then says I, there is no other way for the Governor than to break you all and put others in Commission that are no Whiskey Traders, and will execute their authority.

Herewith I send Mr. Croghan's two last accounts with the Receipts thereon, your Honour will observe in that dated September the sixth, that the first article is one thousand Weight of Flower, that article only was delivered for the most part to the Indians before I came to Aucquicks, all the rest in the time I was there was either delivered to them or to me and .... stored up. There is also charged one thousand of Black Wampum and twelve hundred White, These Wampums Mr. Croghan made use of for Indian Messages before I came there, I saw cause to allow it. The Cask of Powder and one hundred Pound of Lead I gave to the Indians to hunt with. I have nothing else to trouble your Honour with at present, and remain

Heidleberg in the
County of Berks.
the
Sept. 13. 1754.

Sir
Your very obedient and
humble Servant
Conrad Weiser

P.S. As I had time to converse with Tanachariſon a good deal before I delivered the .... Message, I found that it was better not to mention any thing about the Virginians striking the French this Fall, but I told Tanachariſon and Scarrooyady of it, I hope your Honour will condescend to it. The Wampums are marked, and your Honour will easily see to what Article they belong. The largest Belt of the Delawares is of very great Consequence and Importance, and ought to be answered in a very solemn manner by your Honour, and the Council, including the House of Representatives with a much larger Belt and a moving Speech. — Though the Shawonese Belt is an answer to one of ours, yet a Belt of Wampum to them with some good Speech would at these times be of good use. We should give large Belts, the Wampums are cheap, and make, if worked into Belts, and attended with proper Speeches, good Impreſsions. I wish Your Honour Health and Happineſs, and am &c.

C: Weiser

Journal of the Proceedings of Conrad Weiser, in his Way to and at Aucquick, by order of his Honour Governor Hamilton, in the Year 1754, in August and September.

On the 24th of August I received the Governors Instructions, left Philadelphia that Evening, the Weather being excessive hot, I arrived at my House in Heidleberg on the 27th, and rested the 28th the Weather being altered I sat out for Aucquick.

29th ..... left my House, and arrived at James Galbraths that day.

30th ..... Arrived early in the morning at John Harris's Ferry, and heard that the Half King had been arrived on the River about four days ago, and was now down the River at one Taafe's House, I sent my Son down to him with a String of Wampum to invite him to come up to me, and accordingly he came within a few hours, and after some friendly Discourses he agreed to set out with me next morning to Aucquick he being a little in Liquor, some Gentlemen from Philadelphia met him at the said Taafe's, and were glad to see him and gave him plentiful of Drink.

31st ..... The Half King according to Appointment came early in the morning to see me, and told me what he knew of the last Engagement of Major Washington and the French near Monongahela, and before We had our Breakfast some Indians hollowed over the River, and soon after We saw it was Andrew Montour, Nicholas Quebec and Others, and by their coming I was obliged to stay till after dinner, in order to talk over measures about my Message, they, the last mentioned informed me that a great Meeting was appointed at Aucquick, wherein the Indians from Ohio and those on the River of Sasquehannah would be present, and that the Meeting would be about the fourth of September next, I desired Andrew Montour to accompany me to Aucquick, so did the Half King; towards the Evening We set off and got but to Tobias Hendricks.

Sept. 1st. I thought best to alter my Rout and not go along the great Road for some ..... particular Reasons, took therefore the Road to George Croghan's Cape and Sheerman's Creek, and arrived that day at Andrew Montour's accompanied by himself, the Half King and another Indian, and my Son, I found at Andrew Montours about fifteen Indians, Men, Women and Children, and more had been there but were now gone, andrew's Wife had killed a Sheep for them some days ago, she complained that they had done great Damage to the Indian Corn, which was now fit to roast, and I found that there were most every day Indians of those that came from Ohio with some Errand or another which always wanted some Victuals in the Bargain, I gave him Ten Pounds of the Government's money.

2d ..... We set out from Andrew Montours without any Provision, because he told me We should be at Aucquick before night, We rid six Hours before noon and three Hours after, took up Lodging in the Woods.

3d ..... We set out by six o'Clock, and by eight We came to the Trough Spring, by nine to the Shadow of Death, by eleven to the Black Logg, and by twelve arrived at Aucquick; the Indians fired off many Guns to make me welcome, according to their Custom. By the Way, Tanacharison, otherwise called the Half King, complained

very

very much of the Behaviour of Col. Washington to him (tho in a very moderate way..... saying the Col was a good natured man but had no Experience) saying that he took upon him to command the Indians as his Slaves, and would have them every day upon the out Scout, and attack the Enemy by themselves, and that he would by no means take Advice from the Indians, that he lay at one Place from one full Moon to the other, and made no Fortifications at all, but that little thing upon the Meadow, where he thought the French would come up to him in open Field, that had he taken the Half Kings advice, and made such Fortifications as the Half King had advised him to make, he would certainly have beat the French off, that the French had acted as great Cowards and the English as Fools in that Engagement, that he (the Half King) had carried off his Wife and Children, so did other Indians before the Battle begun, because Col. Washington would never listen to them, but was always driving them on to fight by his Directions.

I intended a Meeting, but the Indians were beforehand with me, and came into the House and according to old Custom said.

Brother, We are glad to see You, and as You came a great Way through the Woods, We came to wash off the Sweat from your Face, and the Dust from out of your Eyes, in order to make You look the clearer about You, and see Us your Brethren without anything between Us, We also clear your Throat in order to make You speak freely to Us, in what You have to say to Us, in behalf of the Governor of Pennsylvania, and clear your Heart and Mind from all Prejudice whatsoever.

They gave a String.

This Evening Mr. Croghan at my Request desired the Shawonese and Delawares to repeat over to me every thing what they had said to him at their first Arrival, accordingly on the 4th early in the morning the Shawonese and Delawares sent for me to their Cabin, and spoke to me as follows

Wabaditrisy (alias little Johnny) Speaker.

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania;

We heard at our own Country so many flying Stories, and among other Things We heard that all our Brethren that came away from Ohio first, were all killed by You, that was the Reason of our coming here, to enquire and find out the Truth of the matter and of every other thing that pases. We give You this String of Wampum to wipe off the Tears from your Eyes, to enable You to look clearly about You, and see your Brethren and hear what they have to say—

Here they had given a String.

Brother the Governor,

I have now wiped off the Tears from your Eyes, I will now ease your Heart and take away all the Trouble of your Thought, so that You may lay aside all Prejudice and judge right.

Here they had given a String.

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania and Virginia,

at a Treaty held last Fall between Us, You desired Us to be still and quiet, and mind nothing of any thing whatever We should hear, and only mind and assist in Council affairs, We have hitherto followed your advice, and least You may think We are in the French Interest, because We

were

were not engaged in the Skirmish some of your People had with the French some time ago: We assure You by this String of Wampum, that We are still your Friends and Brethren, as We always have been, and acted agreeable to what You told Us.

Here they had given a String.

Then the Delawares spoke by Dishickamy.

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, We your Brethren the Delawares are one People with You, and your old and first Friends among the Indians; We undertook to recommend the Speech of our Grand Children the Shawonese now made to You to be the Truth, and a Word that came from their Heart, so that You may believe them, which We hope and earnestly desire You will do, and this String of Wampum is our Letter of further assurance to You as from your old Friends.

Brethren the Governor of Pennsylvania and Virginia, at our last Treaty You desired Us to mind nothing but Council affairs, and You desired Us to keep up a good ..... correspondence with all our Indian allies, and to desire them to do the same till We should hear further; We let You know that We have followed your advice, and have sent to all our allies to the South and to the West, and informed them accordingly of your good advice, and they all acted accordingly and approved of your Council.

The Shawonese again spoke,

Brethren the Governor of Pennsylvania and Virginia, We thank You for your kind Office in getting our People that were in Prison in South Carolina released, and sent home to Us though one of them is dead (it was very misfortunate and a great Pity that it happened to be Lawachkamichy) the Bride) who was a noted man among the Shawonese, a great Warrior and a true Friend to the English, he is very much Lamented by that Nation, and the most High knows how he came to his End, We are content, and his Death will by no means occasion a Breach of Friendship between Us and You, and We have let all our allies know the Kindness You have done in procuring our Peoples Liberty, and that they were safely sent home by You.

Here ends the Shawonese Speech.

I bought some Goods of Mr. Croghan to wipe off the Tears from Lawachkamich.y's Friends and Family, and to cover his Grave according to Indian Fashion, his Brother was here present, and his Brother in Law the young King.

I condoled also with them in the Name of this Government over the Death of the Shawonese Chief that died at Capt. McKee's last month, his Son was here present, the dead man's Name was Shikahochquilla.

The Goods that I made use of were as follow,

6 Strouds, 4 matchcoats, 6 pair of Stockings, 2 Shirts, 1 Ruffled Shirt 1000 Black Wampum.

The above Goods were all divided between the two deceased Chiefs Friends and Relations.

About noon the same Day I delivered the Governor's Message to them in the following manner,

Brethren, the Six United Nations, Shawonese and Delawares, I am sent up to You from the Governor of Pennsylvania, and what I am going to say to You, You must take as his own Words; I therefore desire You will give Ear to what I am going to say.

Gave a String.

Brethren

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Brethren,

The Governor sent me Express to acknowledge and thank You for your message by Mr Croghan, and to bid You welcome to Aucquick, and shake hands with You on his behalf, and to enquire after your Health and that of your Families.

Gave a String.

Brethren, You have done right to put yourself under the Protection of this Province, We shall make all necessary Provision for You till the Government shall come to some ..... Determination respecting the present Situation of affairs.

Brethren, our present Governor's Administration agreeable to what has been sometime ago fixed by himself draws to a Period, a new Governor is appointed and soon expected, this ... renders it difficult for Us to know what to do; the Governor who is your hearty Friend desires .... You will be quiet, and remain where You are till the new Governor comes over, and he will ... doubtless bring the Kings Order to Us all, as concerning the Expedition of the French and ..... Invasion on your Lands; make yourselves quiet and easy, and mind nothing but Council affairs till You see Us first stir, perhaps the new Governor may be now in Pennsylvania, then You will hear certainly what We will do against the French on Ohio.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren, by my desiring You to stay here till the new Governor comes in, I dont mean that your young Men shall not run to Ohio now and then, to enquire of our Friends the Indians there how they do, which We rather desire You will encourage, so that We may have News from our Friends on Ohia now and then, and also of the Proceedings of the French.

Gave a Sereing.

Here ended the present Meeting.

Soon after the Shawonese and Delawares together with Tanacharison and ... Scarrooyady came into Mr. Croghan's House, and the Beaver, a noted man of the Delawares spoke to me to the following Purport.

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, You was pleased some time ago by this Sereing of Wampum (he shewing the String) at the Treaty held in Lancaster, to clear up the Road again to our Town from yours in order to renew the old friendly Correspondence with Us, and You removed all Obstacles that from time to Time had obstructed the same, You desired Us that the String of Wampum might be carried to Nowchikano and Skachkawatchiky our Chiefs, which was done accordingly, and our said Chiefs and all our People agreed to it very ... gladly, and desired Us to let You know that We on our side did the same, on our End of the Road, and have removed every thing that from time to time obstructed the same, and now came the said Road to You, and We assure You that it is clear on our side, and We will always keep it so, and nothing shall from henceforth obstruct it; in Confirmation whereof We give You this String of Wampum.

The Speaker then took a Belt of Wampum in his Hand and said,

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, at the same time by this Belt of Wampum (he shewing the Belt) You assured Us that You was our hearty Friend, and nothing remained in your Heart but Good Will and good Wishes to Us, You also desired Us to keep fast hold to this Belt,

and

and be true and hearty, and believe no flying Stories but advise with You on every occasion, this your Belt was carried to Nowchikano and Kachhawatchihy, and were gladly received, and We have it in charge to thank You for your kindness, and to put You in mind of it by this .... Opportunity, and We assure You, that We have hitherto always followed your advice, and held fast to this Belt with all our Strength, and We will do so for the future, and will charge our Children and their Children to follow our Example, and keep up a good Understanding with You always, and We hope You will always look upon Us as your good and true Brethren; We earnestly desire it of You, because We know that our Lives, the Life of our Wives and Children and those yet unborn depends upon it.

Gave a Belt.

Note. the String and Belt that the Speaker first took up are those that were given them by the Commissioners of this Province at Lancaster in the Year 1748, and those that he now gave are in Exchange of them.

Here ended the Shawonese Speech.

Then the Beaver the Speaker of the Delawares stood up and directed his Discourse to the Six Nations, and said,

Uncle, I still remember the Time when You first conquered Us, and made Women of Us, and told Us that You took Us under your Protection, and that We must not meddle with Wars, but stay in the House and mind Council affairs, We have hitherto followed your directions and lived very easy under your Protection, and no high Wind did blow to make Us uneasy, but now Things seem to take another turn, and a high Wind is rising; We desire You therefore Uncle to have your Eyes open, and be watchful over Us your Cousins, as You have always been heretofore.

Gave several Strings of Wampum.

Then the same Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and said,

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, by your Speech just now made to Us You .... comforted our Hearts and You removed all Doubts and Jealousy, it is what You said to Us like the morning Sun, We see now clear your kindness and good will to Us and our Allies, We will make it known to all, We are extremely pleased to hear You speak so sincerely and so agreable to Us; We thank You kindly for your Good Will.

Gave a String.

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, I must now go into the Depth, and put You in mind of old Histories and our first acquaintance with You, when William Penn first appeared in his Ship on our Lands We looked in his Face and judged him to be our Brother, and gave him a fast Hold to tie his Ship to, and We told him that a powerful People called the Five United Nations had placed Us here, and established a fair and lasting .... Friendship with Us, and that he the said William Penn and his People shall be welcome to be one of Us, and in the same Union; to which he and his People agreed, and we then erected an everlasting Friendship with William Penn and his People, which We on our side so well as You have observed as much as possible to this Day; We always looked upon You to be one Flesh and Blood with Us, We desire You will look upon Us in the same Light, and let that Treaty of Friendship made by our Forefathers on both sides subsist, and be in Force

from

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from Generation to Generation, both our Lives, our Wives and Childrens Lives and those as yet unborn depends upon it. Pray Brother consider well what We say, and let it be so. a large Belt.

By a little String of Wampum of black and white they desired the Government of Pennsylvania will take no Notice of any thing that will be said to the contrary, but believe that that what they had said now to be the Truth from their Heart.

5th .... In the morning I answered the Shawonese and Delawares first Speech in the .... following manner.

Brethren the Shawonese, when You first came to Aucquick You made a Speech to Mr. Croghan, directed to the Government of Pennsylvania, by which You put the ..... Governor in mind of what was said to You at the Treaty in Carlisle last Fall, to wit, that You was desired to be quiet and still, and not meddle with any thing concerning the present ..... Noise of the War, but only Council affairs, to strengthen Yourselves in the best manner You could by keeping a good Correspondence with your Allies, and You said You had complied with that advice, and had renewed Friendship with your Indian allies, and least the Governor of Pennsylvania might think that You were in the French Interest because You were not engaged with the English in the action against the French that happened some time ago near Ohio, You assured the Governor of Pennsylvania that You was notwithstanding a Friend and Brother to the English as We have always been, and that You acted according to their advice, this is the Substance of what You said; I have it in charge from the ..... Governor of Pennsylvania to let You know that he approves of your Proceedings, and desires You will always act agreeable to his advice in every thing, and in so doing You will do well. Gave a String.

Brethren the Delawares, You have told Us and put Us in mind of the old Treaties of Friendship subsisting between Us, and that You was one People with Us, and that You therefore recommended the Speech made to Us by your Grand Children the Shawonese to be the Truth, and a Word that came from their Heart, so that We may believe them, which You earnestly desired by a String of Wampum as a Letter of Recommendation from You our old Friends.

Brethren the Delawares, it is true You are one People with Us, for You spring out of the same Spot of Ground with Us, and are therefore our Countrymen, and older Inhabitants than We are, as to your present Habitation on Ohio We look upon as your hunting Cabbin only, for here is your Mother Country, and We look upon You as Ourselves, We therefore take the Recommendation well, and are glad that You and your Grand Children the Shawonese are of one Mind, We believe that what they said came from the bottom of their Hearts, and there remains no doubt with Us. We thank You both for your kind Speeches. Gave a String.

Then I took up the big Belt that the Delawares gave me yesterday and said,

Brethren, by this Belt You was pleased to put the Governor of Pennsylvania in mind of the first Treaties of Friendship and acquaintance with the People of Pennsylvania, when the

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the great William Penn first arrived on your Land, and You repeated over what then passed between your Forefathers and the said William Penn and his People, I must tell You Brethren; that that is too weighty a matter for me to give You an answer upon it, or to exchange the Belt, I will therefore take it with me to Philadelphia, and lay it before the Governor, and he will lay it before his Council, and all the old and wise People of Pennsylvania, they are only able to consider this, and make a suitable answer, I am too mean a man and no way empowered nor capable to answer it, but can only say, that I am very well pleased with what You said, and am glad to carry this Belt to Philadelphia.

The Indians in general as well those of the Six Nations as Delawares and Shawonese appeared to be extremely pleased with what I told them, and gave their Approbation in the usual Sound.

Then Tanacarisson stood up and thanked the Delawares for their kind Speech made Yesterday to the Six Nations by their Strings of Wampum, and said that their Speech will be sent to the Six Nations by a special Messenger where it ought to be.

a Shawonese named Danalaqueshon in open Council signified his great ..... Satisfaction in this Meeting, and said that this was a comfortable Day to him and his People.

On the same day Tanacarisson and Scarrooyady came to consult with me, and advised to join with them to desire the Shawonese and Delawares to stay here at Aucquick for some time longer, or at least so long till the new Governor was come in; to which I agreed in behalf of this Government; and I found the String of Wampum, and Scarrooyady made the Speech accordingly to the Shawonese and Delawares this ..... Evening.

6th: ..... This day at their own Request I informed them of what passed in Albany at the last Treaty, and of the Purchase of the Land that was made there, they seemed not to be very well pleased at first when they heard of it; because of such a large Tract that the Six Nations had released to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, but when they were informed of the new England People's Design, and the French taking the Ohio Lands in Possession, which they might look upon as lost to them, they were content, but would have been more so if they had received a Part of the Consideration.

This Evening I let them know, that, as now all Publick Business was over, I would set off to morrow morning, they, to wit, Tanacarisson and Scarrooyady desired me to stay longer with them to discourse over some private affairs, as they had hitherto no time, to which I consented. but they got Liquor that Evening and all got drunk, however I stayed, and in the afternoon Tanacarisson and Scarrooyady got sober, and I learned from them in a private Discourse, first, that the Senecas from time to time had sent Messages by Belts and Strings of Wampum to the Indians on Ohio, to order them not to meddle with the French neither in one way nor the other, but stand Neuter, and keep their Ears and Eyes towards the Six United Nations.

Secondly, that the Twightwees had sent several of their head men this Summer to the Lower Shawonese Town with a Message, the Purport whereof as follows.

Brethren the Shawonese, You know that the French has invaded our Country on all Sides, why do You set so still, will You be Slaves to the French, and suffer them to be masters of all the Land and all the Game, rise up and take the Hatchet and follow our

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Example, We have killed not long ago fifty French men, all Warriors, and in one day five other Nations have joined Us, and if You and your Grandfathers the Delawares will but stir, the French will soon be forced to fly.

This Article is confirmed by moses, otherwise called the Long, a Mohock Indian, who was present at the Delivery of the Message.

To which the Shawonese made Answer.

Brethren the Twightwees, We are surprised at your Request, the Six United Nations have desired Us to sit still and not mind the French, and that We must keep our Ears and Eyes to the Six United Nations, so does our Grandfathers the Delawares; We desire You will spare Us and leave our Town before the French hear of You, and come and kill You here, and plunge Us into the War before the Six United Nations begin it.

The Twightwees accordingly went home in disgust, and Tanacarison and Scarrooyady are out of humour with the Shawonese for not consulting them about an Answer to the Twightwees.

The following Article I was charged to keep to myself, to wit.

Thirdly, that they, to wit, Tanacarison and Scarrooyady were credibly informed, that the Mohocks, Oneiders and Tuscororas would assist the English against the French, as soon as the English gave Proof of their being in earnest.

Fourthly, Scarrooyady is going to Oneido soon (it is his native Country) to inform himself of the Minds of the Six United Nations, and to use his Endeavours to bring them to side with the English against the French.

Fifthly, I found that the Shawonese and Delawares are very strictly united together, and that the French made them large Presents, desiring them to stand their Friends or Neuter, they the Shawonese and Delawares made them no answer at all, but sent these Men about twelve in Number to see their Brethren the English (and I suppose to learn what they are about) and to renew their Friendship with them.

The Indians Names that were present in all the Meetings I had with them, are as follows.

Tanacarison ..... Seneca Chief	Delawares.
Scarrooiyady ..... Oneido Chief	The Beaver
Tohaswaycëston ..... Seneca Chief	Delaware George
Seneca George ..... chief	Dishuchramy
Captain William ..... Seneca	Hickyjushu
Thanachjahanyjady ..... Seneca	William anderson the Delaware
Sahojaduntha ..... Cayuga	Delaware Jack.
moses Contjochqua ..... Mohock	John Moore the Delaware
aquoyioda ..... Ditto	&
	Several others.

Shawonese.

Lapêchheve ..... the young King.
Donylequêshoney.
Wopatyheety ..... Speaker
Thunjuchha (alias Penn)
The Runner
Catousima, Cachhawatchihys Grand Child
and Several others.

The

The White People that were present for the most were besides myself and my Son,

Andrew Montour Interpreter to the Delawares.
George Croghan
Peter Shaffer
Hugh Crawford
Thomas Simpson
and John Owen.

On the 8th about ten o' clock I left Aucquick, and came by the Way of James Dunnings and Carlisle, and arrived at my House in Heidleberg September the 12. 1754.

Conrad Weiser.

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Mr. George Croghan.

August the 30th 1754.

May it please your Honour,

Yesterday I received your Honour's Express, and acquainted the Indians that Mr. Weiser was on the Road with a Message from your Honour to them, which was a very agreeable piece of News to the Indians in general.

One of the Indian Messengers that went to Ohio is returned, and brings an account that there will be a great Number of Indians from Ohio here in a few days, as he tells me, they are all deserting the French of all Nations by a French Deserter from the Fort. I hear the French are very sickly, and not less than three or four dye of a day.

I assure your Honour I have been as frugal as in my Power in supplying the Indians since they came here, nor did I know any thing of their coming till they got here; for had I been at Wills's Creek when they set off, I shoud have endeavoured to have made them stay in Virginia at the Camp before I would have drawn such an Expence on the Province, or such a Trouble on myself; I was abroad when they came, but as soon as I came home, I put a Stop to any Spirits being brought amongst them, nor do I even keep one Drop in my own House.

I here enclose the Copy of a Letter from Captain Stobo mentioned in his last Letter with a Plan of the Fort, which I received two days ago by an Indian named Moses. I received a Letter from Col Innes yesterday, who makes his Compliments to your Honour, he informs me that there will be one of the Council from Virginia for certain up here to confer with the Indians soon, who I hope will bear some of the Expence; for I assure your Honour the Expence will be great, there is such a ..... Number of Women and Children, and more coming, they have already almost destroyed thirty acres of Indian Corn for me, exclusive of the other Provisions, which are very dear and hard to be got, as the Country takes all Opportunities to extort an extravagant Price for what they have to sell, but if those Indians be to be ..... maintained here, I would be glad the Government would send some Person to purchase the Provisions for them, who I would assist as much as in my Power, by which means the Government might be fully satisfied of the Prices of Provisions, and the Quantity that would serve, as well as the Trouble of taking Care of so many of different Tribes.

Ser-

Sir, I shall do every thing in my Power to assist Mr. Weiser pursuant to your Honours Commands.

I am your Honours most humble and most obedient Servant

Geo. Croghan

Aucquick old Town.

P.S. Sir, the Indians insist on the Promises made them last Fall by the Government of Virginia, and this Government, that is, to supply their Wives and Children with Provisions, as they are drove out of their own Country.

A Letter from Captain Stobo.

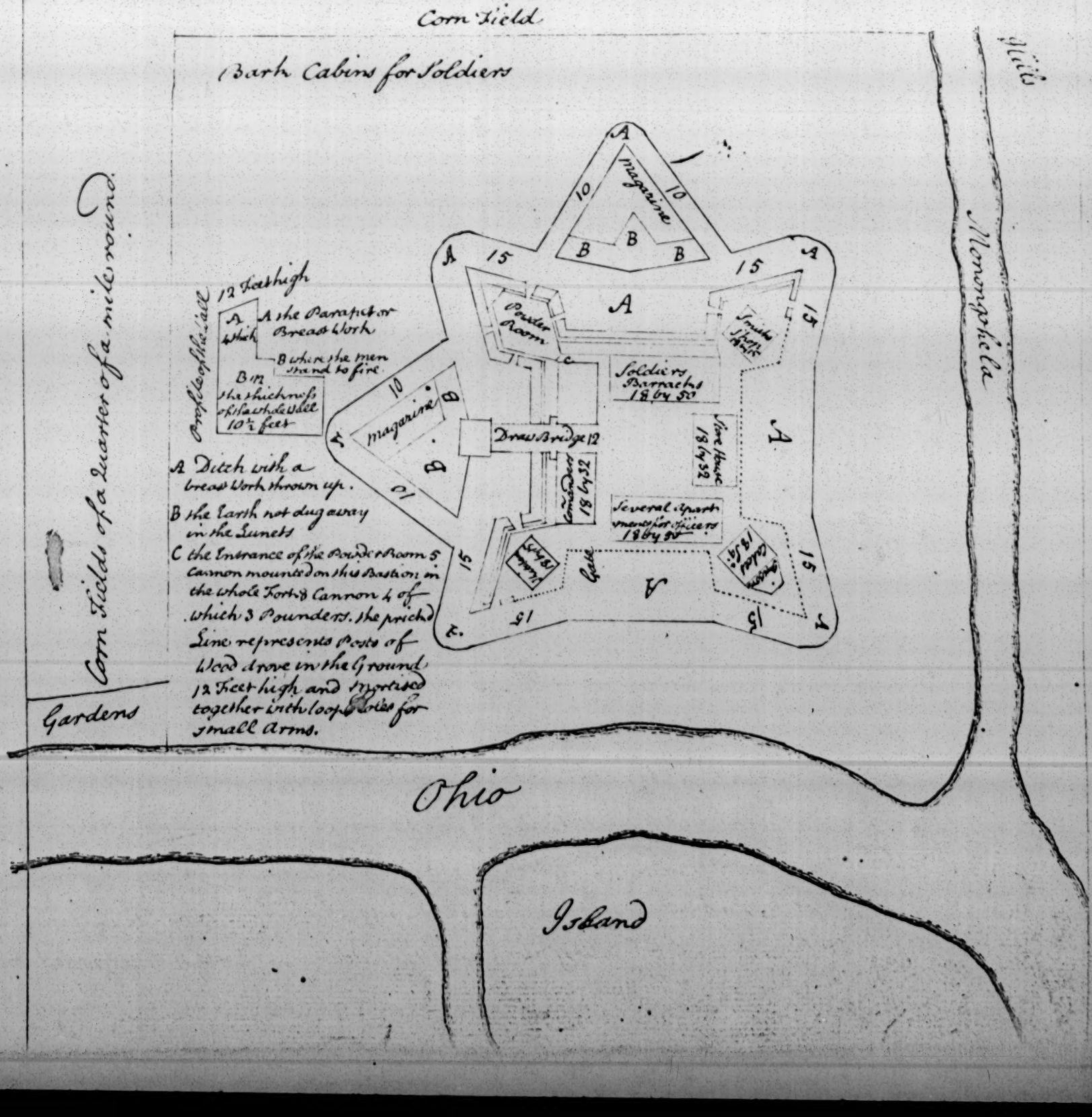
Sir 28th July 1754.

The Indians are greatly alarmed at a Report said to be brought up by an Indian named Tuscorora John, he reports, that the Half King, Monecatootha and a Shawonese King &c. to the Number of 37 were confined by the English and carried as Prisoners, that John Meinor alias Jack Cork of Montours Company told him so soon as they got them to the Inhabitants they would hang them all, and advised him to make his Escape, this was industriously reported the Day before the Shawonese counselled with the French, and their Indians. The French made them a very long and elegant Speech, telling them they did not come to make War with any, but the English would not let them alone, that they expected their Children would not see their Father abused in his old Age, but if that they had a mind to join the English they might, if not and to live in Peace with all there were Goods for them. this was all I could pick up, the French gave Two very large Belts of Wampum and as many Strings, their Indians gave an equal Number, the French gave them likewise a large Present viz. 16 very fine Guns, 2 Barls Gunpowder and Bullets in Proportion, 16 fine Suits of Cloathes, several of a meaner kind, Blankets, Strouds, &c. The Shawonese made no answer at that time, or have I heard they have as yet, 'tis now reported for certain that the Half King &c. are killed and their Wives and Children given up to the Barbarity of the Cherokees and Catawbas, of whom they say there are 300 at the new Store, true or false it has greatly alarmed them, and had it not been for that Report, I believe a great many Indians of several Nations would have been with You now, if true (which I cannot think) there will be no farther dependence on any Indians this Way, and will make our Return very hazardous, but that's not to be considered. The Shawonese, Picks and Delawares have had a grand Council by themselves what they have determined I know not, but I have persuaded some of them to venture to see You, by assuring them they will be used in the best manner, and that there is large Presents for the Indians at the new Store, a Present well timed now will be of great Service. If Peace be made with their Indians Catawbas and Cherokees, I hope all... will go well. I assure You there was not any of those Indians We call ours at the Battle except Six or Seven I believe of the Mingoe Nation, Fellows not regarded by them... ...particularly

particularly one English John, he was at Guests with those that were suspected as Spies. I'm informed he intends to see you with some of the rest, take care of them; I send this by Monecatoothas Brother in Law a worthy Fellow, and may be trusted. On the other side You have a Draught of the Fort such as Time and Opportunity would admit of at this time, its Garrison consists of 200 men Workmen and all the Rest went in several detachments to the Number of 1000 two days hence Mericue (a fine Soldier) goes so that only Contrecaur with a few young Officers and Cadets remain here, a Lieutenant went off some days ago with 200 Men for Provisions, he's daily expected, when he arrives the Garrison will then be 400. La Force is greatly wanted here, no scouting now, he certainly must have been an extraordinary Man amongst them, he is so much regretted and wished for, when We engaged to serve the Country, it was expected We were to doit with our Lives, let them not be disappointed, consider the Good of the Expedition without the least Regard to us, for my part I would die ten thousand Deaths to have the Pleasure of possessing this Fort but one day, they are so vain of their Success at the meadows, 'tis worse than Death to hear them, strike this Ball as soon as possible, make the Indians ours, prevent Intelligence, get the best and 'tis done; one hundred trusty Indians might surprize this Fort, they have access all day and might lodge themselves so that they might secure the Guard with their Tomhawks, shut the Sally Gate and the Fort is ours, ... none but the Guard and Contrecaur stays in the Fort; for Gods Sake communicate this but to few and them You can trust, Intelligence comes here unaccountably, if they should know I wrote, I should at least lose the little Liberty I have, I should be glad to hear from You, but take no Notice of this in yours. Excuse Errors, bad Diction &c. and believe me to be, Your

Pray be kind to this Indian Shingas and Delaware George have been here.

Robt. Stobo.



414.

Pennsylvania. 1754.

The Governor received the following Letter from Governor Dinwiddie which was read and ordered to be entered.

Virginia Williamsburg September

Sir

Your kind Favour of the twelfth Ult^o. I received, and shoud have answered it before this, but waited the Result of our Assembly in regard to granting Supplies. They met the 22^d of last month, and I thought with great Inclination to grant a handsome Sum, they all appearing sensible of the great Danger all the Colonies were exposed to. On the 27th they voted £20,000 which was twice read in the House of Burgesses, the third Reading which was the 28th a contentious Spirit possessed some of them, and they proposed a Rider to the Bill, which was to pay £2500 to Payton Randolph Esquire their Agent, sent home with a Complaint against me, about the Pistole Affair. Our Treasurer, who is Speaker of the House of Burgesses inconstitutionally paid this money by a Resolve of their House, which Resolve was last November rejected by the Council; however they tacked this to the Bill of Supply, and sent it up to the Council, and they unanimously rejected the same; they were on this obstinate, and declared they would pass no Bill of Supply without it; I used all the arguments in my Power to shew them the ..... Impropriety of tacking a private Demand to a publick Bill of Supply to his ..... Majesty, and further told them that Transaction was out of our Hands; for that Resolution and the other extraordinary Resolves they made in November Session, was before the King and Council, and that they should not notice it till the Resolution and Determination of the King and Council was known: They were obstinate and deaf to all arguments, and declared without that Rider they would grant no Supply, so that I was obliged to prorogue them till the 17th of October next.

There appears to me an Infatuation in all the Assemblies in this Part of the World, they are not affected with the imminent Danger they are so obviously exposed to, but seem satisfied to leave the French at full Liberty to perpetrate their utmost ..... Designs to their Ruin.

I daily expect a King's Ship with Mr. Dobbs Governor of North Carolina by whom I hope to have a proper account of the affairs lying before the King and Council. – This unexpected and unreasonable Conduct of our Assembly puts a Stop to all my Operations this Fall, which if I had been able to put in Execution, by a Supply of Money, 'tis probable We might have put a Stop to the French, and drove them from the Ohio; whereas now they are left at full Liberty to murder, plunder and everything else they think proper. Our Assembly complains much of the Want of proper Aid from our neighbouring Colonies; if Mr. Morris is arrived with You, and can bring your People to a proper Way of thinking by granting a handsome Supply, it may probably raise the Spirit of our Assembly to renew their Vote without this Rider. At present I am under the greatest Apprehensions of the bad Consequences from the lethargic Indolence of the different Colonies, in not opposing the Enemy just at our doors; and indeed this affair gives me more Concern and Anxiety than anything ever occurred to me.

A Governor is really to be pitied in the Discharge of his Duty to his King and Country

Country in having to do with such obstinate self conceited People. The French and Indians are now making Incursions among our Inhabitants in Augusta County; threatning our People to depart from their Plantations, and propose building Forts on Holstons, Green-bryars and other Rivers. I keep up the Forces We have, and have ordered a Detachment to these Places to protect our Frontiers.

I am very sensible of your good Inclinations to support this necessary Expedition, but no Governor can act consistently without proper Supplies, and am very sorry there is such Supineness in the People of your Province, from their Numbers We had Reason to expect at least one thousand men; and I think You have acted properly in resigning the Government, and if I could in Honour, I should be glad to do the same, for I am quite wearied with the many Obstacles thrown in my way in Discharge of my Duty.

I fully agree with You that no Expedition can be conducted here with a dependance on the Assemblies, and I have fully represented it home, and have desired Aid of Men, Money and Ordinance Stores, without which I have small Hopes of Success; as they have this Affair much at heart in Great Britain, I hope they will grant Us proper ..... Assistance, and that soon, otherwise I fear it will be too late.

Though You have resigned the Government, I shall be glad of a Line from You at your leisure time, with your Opinion on Affairs now in Action — You have done very judiciously in assisting the Half King &c.ª and hope You will represent the Affairs to Mr. Morris on his arrival in its true Light, and pray present my Compliments to him; I had a small Knowledge of him in London.

The Three Independant Companies with the other few Forces are to build a Magazine for Stores at some Place near Will's Creek, and to erect a small Battery for its Protection; for I think with the small Number of Men We have, We cannot this Winter venture over the Allegheny Mountains; the Prospect at a distance is if the Assemblies can be brought to Reason and grant proper Supplies, to make a Push early in the Spring, before they can be reinforced from Quebec.

I am so dejected with this last unexpected Behaviour of our Assembly, that I despair of doing what my Inclination and the present Posture of our Affairs demands, however, I shall endeavour with Patience and wait to see what Time may produce. Excuse the Length of this Letter, and believe me to be with great Regard and Respect

Sir
Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
Robt. Dinwiddie

To Governor Hamilton.

At a Council held at Newcastle, Monday the Seventh of October, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn,
William Till,
Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The Governor's Commission, Royal Approbation, and Certificate of his Honour's having taken the Oaths before the King in Council, were read and published at the Court House in the Presence of several Magistrates, Gentlemen, and other Inhabitants of the Counties.

Then were read the Returns of the Sheriffs and Coroners for the three several Counties; and the following Persons being appointed, they received their Commissions.

(Blank in Council Book and Names omitted.)

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday, the 14th October, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn, Joseph Turner,
Robert Strettell, Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Secretary laid before the Council the Papers relating to the late Treaty at Aucquick, vizt: Mr. Hamilton's Letter to Mr. Croghan; His Instructions to Mr. Weiser; Mr. Weiser's Letter to him, and the Journal of his Proceedings; all which were read together with a Letter from Mr. Croghan of the thirtieth of August, and a letter from Captain Stobo therein enclosed, and ordered to be laid before the Assembly and then entered.

Governor Hamilton's Letter to Mr. George Croghan.

"PHILADELPHIA, 23d August, 1754.

"Sir:

"Your Express arrived on Tuesday Afternoon and delivered me your Letter of the sixteenth Instant, enclosing Four different Parcels of Wampum, your Account of Expences for the Supply of

Indian Provisions now at Aucquick, and a Copy of Lieutenant Stobo's Letter from Fort Duquesne to the Commanding Officer of the Virginia Forces.

"I wish it had arrived when the Assembly was sitting, but as they had finished the Business of the Year and had separated on Saturday, I could do no better than lay it before the Council and take the Advice of such Members as were in Town.

"By them it was concluded that Mr. Weiser, who was fortunately in Town, should go and consult with You and confer with the Indians and take with him for their Use a Supply of Money, as well to defray the Expences that have already accrued as what may accrue, till the Legislature shall come to a Determination what Measures to pursue in the present Exigency of Affairs. He will likewise assist in putting Matters into such a frugal Channel and Order with the Indians that no more may be expended than is necessary, for You must be sensible that a great Expence is likely to accrue to the Province, and that all Methods imaginable should be used to husband the publick Money.

"That the Indians may not be discouraged or imagine Us wanting in a just Sense of their and our Danger, or in an hearty Disposition to oppose and repel the French, Mr. Weiser has my Instructions to acquaint them that notwithstanding the present Appearances of great Backwardness in our Inhabitants, yet it is entirely owing to an unfortunate Disagreement between me and the Assembly about the Mode of raising the Money. But as the Time fixed by me for my Administration draws to a Period, and a new Governor is hourly expected to arrive, We entertain good hopes that this Difference will no longer continue, but give Way to a perfect Harmony, and that fitting Supplies will be immediately raised, and this Province concur with Virginia in vigorous Efforts to repel the common Invader.

"I hope You will study to oblige Mr. Weiser, and that He and You will perfectly agree together, and tho' it may not be prudent as it cannot be known what the future Governor and Assembly will do to give the Indians too large Expectation of Supplies, yet they should not be discouraged by any means. You will, therefore, consult in what manner to deliver these Sentiments to the Indians so as to Steer between the two Extremes.

"I expect you will omit no opportunity of giving me full Information of all Occurrences worthy of Relation, or of assuring the Indians that we shall always behave to them with the utmost Affection and Kindness.

"If the Indians be permitted to drink strong Liquors it will be impossible for them to exert their Strength or to preserve their Understanding. I must, therefore, be importunate with you to prevent all such Liquors from being carried to them on any Pretence

whatever; and I order You to stave every Cask wherein any are found, and to return to me the names of the Inhabitants as shall presume to bring strong Liquors among the Indians, that they may be dealt with according to Law; nor let them think that they shall escape as they have hitherto done, since it is now determined to spare none of these Offenders.

"I may venture to assure you that Your Services will be duly considered, and that a prudent Behaviour in the Management of such an important Concern as is now comitted to Your Care will recommend You to the Favour of the Government, who will be thereby engaged to give you all becoming Encouragements.

"Mr. Weiser goes by his own House, where He will not stay more than a day, so that you may expect him very soon after this Messenger. I am,

"Sir, Your humble Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON."

—

Instructions to Conrad Weiser, Esquire.

"Having received by Express a Message from (the Half King) Tanacharisson and Scarrooyady, who with some Shawonese and Delawares came lately to Aucquick and intend to stay there, I have by the Advice of Council and with the Approbation of the Speaker and such other Members of the Assembly as live in Town, thought proper to send You to Aucquick, where You are to enquire of Mr. Croghan what they have at any time said to him of their Dispositions and future Intentions, as well as of those of the Twightwees, Owendaets, Shawones, and Delawares, respecting the present Hostilities of the French.

"You are to learn if possible if any and what Directions have been given them for their Behaviour towards the English or French from the Council of Onondago or any of the Six Nations their Fathers, or whether they or which of them have ever encouraged the French; particularly enquire about the Disposition of the Senecas.

"When You have received Information of these and all other necessary matters, then You are to consult with Mr. Croghan and deliver the following Answer:

"'Brethren—

"'The Governor sent me Express to acknowledge and thank You for your Message by Mr. Croghan and to bid You welcome to Aucquick, and to enquire after your Health and that of your Families.

"'Brethren:

"'You have done right to put Yourselves under the Protection

of this Province. We shall make all necessary Provision for You till the Government shall come to some Determination respecting the present Situation of Affairs.

"'Brethren:

"'Our present Governor's Administration, agreeable to what has been some time ago fixed by himself, draws to a Period. A new Governor is appointed and is hourly expected. This renders it difficult for Us to know what to do. We are all disposed to concur with Virginia and to repel the French, but are waiting for the Arrival of the new Governor that it may be done more effectually.

"'Brethren:

"'This being the Case, the Governor, who is your hearty Friend, desires You will be quiet and remain where You are till the Governor of Virginia or He, or both together, who I believe are determined to strike the French this Fall, send to You to let You know their Determination and what they expect from You.'

"As to the Speeches made by the Shawonese and Delawares to the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia, which were delivered to Mr. Croghan and the Half King, consult with Mr. Croghan about the particulars thereof, and return such Answers as are consistent with the Treaties subsisting between Us and the present Circumstances of our Affairs.

"You are to declare to the Inhabitants that they will be severely punished if they presume on any Consideration to carry strong Liquors to Aucquick, and You are to charge the Indians to stave all the Casks, and if they will not do it You are to insist on Mr. Croghan's doing it.

"The Distribution of the three hundred Pounds is committed to your Care, in which You may consult with Mr. Croghan, and when You have settled every thing to your Mind Mr. Croghan after your Departure will be better able to continue Matters in the same Course You shall have put them in.

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"Philadelphia, 24th August, 1754."

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A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Mr. Weiser.

"Honour'd Sir:

"I have the Pleasure to let You know that I am safe arrived from Aucquick yesterday, and herein enclosed is a Copy of my Journal, in which I have been perhaps too Copious. It was chiefly done for my own Memory, and at last I thought proper to send a Copy thereof as it is. I hope your Honour will find a leisure Hour to read it. I send herein enclosed also an account of the Money I

was trusted with by your Honour. I am sensible I did not every where act according to the Instruction, if literally to be taken, but I hope no Fault will be found when it is considered that if I had the laying out of all the three hundred Pounds and bought Provisions for it at Aucquick, or rather among the Inhabitants, the Carriage and the Distribution of it must have been left to Mr. Croghan, he might (if he intended it) purloin a great deal of it, but I have the Opinion of him that he will do Justice. I counted above twenty Cabbins about his House, and in them at least two hundred Indians, Men, Women and Children, and a great many more are scattered thereabouts, some two or three miles off, and frequently come to fetch Meal at Mr. Croghan's; he has between twenty-five and thirty Acres of the best Indian Corn that ever I saw; he sends his servants every day to fetch four or five Bags full of roasting Ears for them, but there is not an hour in the day but what some steal into it and fetch more; and upon the whole, it is my Opinion they will destroy one-half of it before it can be gathered in, to say nothing of the Butter, Milk, Squashes, Pumpkins, they daily fetch, for all which if he be not allowed he must be a great Loser. I advised him to charge for it what was reasonable, and to get two or three creditable Men (as often come there from the Inhabited Parts) to value the Corn that the Indians took away, and certify it. I cannot see what can be done else. Mr. Croghan must either be trusted to buy and distribute Provision or the Government must keep a Man there in whom they can confide to receive the Provision from Mr. Croghan or those that bring it and so distribute it according to the Governor's Instructions; however, I believe the Indians will scatter before the Winter comes, at least some of them. The Bloody Flux got among some of them, and Lewis Montour, Andrew's Brother, disturbs them often by bringing strong Liquor to them. They cannot help buying and drinking it when it is so near, and Lewis sells it very dear to them, and pretends that his Wife, which is an ugly Indian Squa, does it. He sends Indians to the Inhabitants to fetch it for him, and Mr. Croghan can by no means prevent it because they keep it in the Woods about or within a mile from his House, and there the Indians will go (after having Notice) and drink their Cloathing and so come back to George Croghan's drunk and naked. It is a surprizing thing that no means can be found to prevent the Inhabitants in Cumberland County from selling strong Liquor to the Indians. I am credibly informed that some of the Magistrates of that County sells the most. Mr. Smith was at Aucquick, I suppose to gather some Money for Liquor he sent—he is an old Hypocrite—told me that the Governor ought not to suffer any strong Liquor to come to Aucquick. I asked him whether he would have the Governor to come Up with his Sword and Pistol to prevent it. No, said he. Well then says I, there is no other way for the Governor than to break You all and put others in Commission that are no Whiskey Traders and will exercise their authority.

"Herewith I send Mr. Croghan's two last accounts with the Receipts thereon. Your Honour will observe in that dated September the sixth, that the first Article is one thousand Weight of Flower, that Article only was delivered for the most part to the Indians before I came to Aucquick, all the rest in the time I was there was either delivered to them or to me and stored up. There is also charged one thousand of Black Wampum and twelve hundred White. These Wampums Mr. Croghan made use of for Indian Messages before I came there. I saw cause to allow it. The Cask of Powder and one hundred Pound of Lead I gave to the Indians to hunt with. I have nothing else to trouble your Honour with at present, and remain,

"Sir, Your very obedient and humble Servant,

"CONRAD WEISER.

"Heidleberg, in the County of Berks, Septr 13th, 1754.

"P. S. As I had time to converse with Tanacharisson a good deal before I delivered the Message, I found that it was better not to mention any thing about the Virginians striking the French this Fall; but I told Tanacharisson and Scarrooyady of it. I hope your Honour will condescend to it. The Wampums are marked and your Honour will easily see to what Article they belong. The largest Belt of the Delawares is of very great Consequence and Importance, and ought to be answered in a very solemn manner by your Honour and the Council, including the House of Representatives, with a much larger Belt and a moving Speech. Though the Shawonese Belt is an answer to one of ours, yet a Belt of Wampum to them with some good Speech would at these times be of good use. We should give large Belts. The Wampums are cheap, and make, if worked into Belts and attended with proper Speeches, good Impressions. I wish your Honour Health and Happiness, and am, &c.

"C. WEISER.

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"*Journal of the Proceedings of Conrad Weiser in his Way to and at Aucquick, by Order of His Honour Governor Hamilton, in the Year* 1754, *in August and September.*

"On the 24th of August I received the Governor's Instructions; left Philadelphia that Evening, the weather being excessive hot, I arrived at my House in Heidleberg on the 27th, and rested the 28th; the Weather being altered I sat out for Aucquick.

"29th.—Left my House and arrived at James Galbrath's that day.

"30th.—Arrived early in the morning at John Harris' Ferry, and heard that the Half King had been arrived on the River about four days ago and was now down the River at one Taafe's House. I sent my Son down to him with a String of Wampum to invite

him to come up to me, and accordingly he came within a few hours, and after some Friendly Discourses he agreed to set out with me next morning to Aucquick; he being a little in Liquor some Gentlemen from Philadelphia met him at the said Taafe's and were glad to see him and gave him plentiful of Drink.

"31st.—The Half King, according to Appointment, came early in the Morning to see me, and told me what he knew of the last Engagement of Major Washington and the French near Monongohela; and before We had our Breakfast some Indians hollowed over the River, and soon after We saw it was Andrew Montour, Nicholas Quebec, and Others, and by their coming I was obliged to stay till after dinner, in order to talk over Measures about my Message; they, the last mentioned, informed me that a great Meeting was appointed at Aucquick, wherein the Indians from Ohio and those on the River of Sasquehanna would be present, and that the Meeting would be about the fourth of September next. I desired Andrew Montour to accompany me to Aucquick, so did the Half King; towards the Evening We sat off and got but to Tobias Hendricks.

"Septr 1st.—I thought best to alter my Rout and not go along the great Road, for some particular Reasons; took, therefore, the Road to George Croghan's Cape and Sheerman's Creek, and arrived that day at Andrew Montour's, accompanied by himself, the Half King, and another Indian, and my Son I found at Andrew Montour's about fifteen Indians, Men, Women, and Children, and more had been there, but were now gone. Andrew's Wife had killed a Sheep for them some days ago—she complained that they had done great Damage to the Indian Corn, which was now fit to roast; and I found that there were most every day Indians of those that came from Ohio with some Errand or another, which always wanted some Victuals in the Bargain. I gave him Ten Pounds of the Government's Money.

"2d.—We sat out from Andrew Montour's without any Provision, because he told me We should be at Aucquick before night. We rid six Hours before noon and three Hours after—took up Lodging in the Woods.

"3d.—We sat out by six o'Clock, and by eight We came to the Trough Spring, by nine to the Shadow of Death, by eleven to the Black Logg, and by twelve arrived at Aucquick; the Indians fired off many Guns to make me Welcome, according to their Custom. By the Way Tanacharisson, otherwise called the Half King, complained very much of the Behaviour of Col. Washington to him (tho' in a very moderate way, saying the Col. was a good-natured man but had no Experience), saying that he took upon him to command the Indians as his Slaves, and would have them every day upon the Out Scout and attack the Enemy by themselves, and that he would by no means take Advice from the Indians; that he

lay at one Place from one full Moon to the other and made no Fortifications at all, but that little thing upon the Meadow, where he thought the French would come up to him in open Field; that had he taken the Half King's advice and made such Fortifications as the Half King advised him to make he would certainly have beat the French off; that the French had acted as great Cowards, and the English as Fools in that Engagement; that he (the Half King) had carried off his Wife and Children, so did other Indians before the Battle begun, because Col. Washington would never listen to them, but was always driving them on to fight by his Directions.

"I intended a Meeting but the Indians were before hand with me, and came into the House, and according to old Custom said:

"'Brother: We are glad to see you, and as You came a great Way through the Woods We come to wash off the Sweat from your Face and the Dust from out of your Eyes in order to make You look the clearer about You, and see Us your Brethren without anything between Us. We also clear your Throat in order to make you speak freely to us in what You have to say to Us in behalf of the Governor of Pennsylvania, and clear your Heart and mind from all Prejudice whatsoever.'

"They gave a String.

"This Evening Mr. Croghan, at my Request, desired the Shawonese and Delawares to repeat over to me every thing what they said to him at their first Arrival. Accordingly on ye 4th early in the morning, the Shawonese and Delawares sent for me to their Cabin, and spoke to me as follows:

"Wabadikisy (alias Little Johnney), Speaker.

"'Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania:

"'We heard at our own Country so many flying Stories, and among other Things We heard that all our Brethren that came away from Ohio first were all killed by You, that was the Reason of our coming here to enquire and find out the Truth of the matter, and of every other thing that passes. We give you this String of Wampum to wipe off the Tears from your Eyes to enable You to look clearly about You and see your Brethren and hear what they have to say.'

"Here they had given a String.

"'Brother the Governor:

"'I have now wiped off the Tears from your Eyes. I will now ease your Heart, and take away all the Trouble of your Thought, so that You may lay aside all Prejudice and judge Right.'

"Here they had given a String.

"'Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania and Virginia:

"'At a Treaty held last Fall between Us You desired us to be

still and quiet and mind nothing of any thing whatever We should hear, and only mind and assist in Council Affairs. We have hitherto followed your advice, and least you may think We are in the French Interest because we were not engaged in the Skirmish some of your People had with the French some time ago, We assure You by this String of Wampum that We are still your Friends and Brethren as We always have been, and acted agreeable to what You told Us.

"Here they had given a String.

"Then the Delawares spoke by Dishickamy.

"'Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, We, your Brethren the Delawares, are one People with You and Your old and first Friends among the Indians; We undertook to recommend the Speech our Grand Children the Shawonese now made to You to be the Truth and a Word that came from their Heart, so that You may believe them, which We hope and earnestly desire You will do, and this String of Wampum is our Letter of further assurance to You as from Your old Friends.

"'Brethren the Governor of Pennsylvania and Virginia, at our last Treaty You desired Us to mind nothing but Council Affairs, and You desired Us to keep up a good Correspondence with all our Indian Allies, and to desire them to do the same till We should hear further; We let You know that We have followed your Advice, and have sent to all our Allies to the South and to the West and informed them accordingly of your good Advice, and they all acted accordingly and approved of your Council.'

"The Shawonese again spoke:

"'Brethren the Governor of Pennsylvania and Virginia: We thank You for Your kind Office in getting our People that were in Prison in South Carolina released and sent home to Us, though one of them is dead (it was very misfortunate and a great Pity that it happened to be Lawachkamicky the Bride), who was a noted Man among the Shawonese, a great Warrior and a true Friend to the English; he is very much lamented by that Nation, and the most High knows how he came to his End. We are content, and his Death will by no means occasion a Breach of Friendship between Us and You, and We have let all our Allies know the Kindness You have done in procuring our People's Liberty, and that they were safely sent home by you.'

"Here ends the Shawonese Speech.

"I bought some goods of Mr. Croghan to wipe off the Tears from Lawachkamicky's Friends and Family, and to cover his Grave according to Indian Fashion; his Brother was here present, and his Brother-in-Law the young King.

"I condoled also with them in the Name of this Government over the Death of the Shawonese Chief that died at Capt McKee's last

month, his Son was here present, the dead Man's Name was Kissakochquilla.

"The Goods that I made use of were as follow: 6 Strouds, 4 Matchcoats, 6 pair of Stockings, 2 Shirts, 1 Ruffled Shirt, 1,000 black Wampum. The above Goods were divided between the two deceased Chiefs Friends and Relations.

"About noon the same Day I delivered the Governor's Message to them in the following manner:

"'Brethren the Six United Nations, Shawonese and Delawares: I am sent up to You from the Governor of Pennsylvania, and what I am going to say to You You must take as his own Words; I therefore desire You will give Ear to what I am going to say.'

"Gave a String.

"'Brethren:

"'The Governor sent me Express to acknowledge and thank You for your Message by Mr. Croghan, and to bid You welcome to Aucquick, and shake hands with You on his behalf, and to enquire after your Health and that of your Families.'

"Gave a String.

"'Brethren: You have done right to put yourself under the the Protection of this Province. We shall make all necessary Provision for you till the Government shall come to some Determination respecting the present Situation of Affairs.

"'Brethren: Our present Governor's Administration, agreeable to what has been some time ago fixed by himself, draws to a Period—a new Governor is appointed and soon expected—this renders it difficult for Us to know what to do. The Governor, who is your hearty Friend, desires You will be quiet and remain where You are till the new Governor comes over; and he will doubtless bring the King's Order to Us all, as concerning the Expedition of the French and Invasion on your Lands. Make yourselves quiet and easy and mind nothing but Council affairs till You see Us first stir; perhaps the new Governor may be now in Pennsylvania, then You will hear certainly what We will do against the French on Ohio.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Brethren: By my desiring You to stay here till the new Governor comes in, I don't mean that your young Men shall not run to Ohio now and then to enquire of our Friends the Indians there how they do, which We rather desire You will encourage, so that We may have News from our Friends on Ohio now and then, and also of the Proceedings of the French.'

"Gave a String.

"Here ended the present Meeting.

"Soon after the Shawonese and Delawares, together with Tuna-

charisson and Scarrooyady, came into Mr. Croghan's House, and the Beaver, a noted Man of the Delawares, spoke to me to the following Purport:

"'Brother, the Governor of Pennsylvania: You was pleased some time ago by this String of Wampum (he shewing the String) at the Treaty held in Lancaster, to clear up the Road again to our Town from yours in order to renew the old friendly Correspondence with Us, and You removed all Obstacles that from time to Time had obstructed the same. You desired Us that the String of Wampum might be carried to Nowchikano and Kachhawatchiky, our Chiefs, which was done accordingly, and our said Chiefs and all our People agree to it very gladly, and desired Us to let You know that We on our side did the same on our End of the Road, and have removed every thing that from time to time obstructed the same, and now came the said Road to You, and We assure You that it is clear on our side, and We will always keep it so, and nothing shall from henceforth obstruct it; in Confirmation whereof We give You this String of Wampum.'

"The Speaker then took a Belt of Wampum in his Hand and said:

"'Brother, the Governor of Pennsylvania: at the same time by this Belt of Wampum (he shewing the Belt) You assured Us that You was our hearty Friend, and nothing remained in your Heart but Good Will and good Wishes to Us. You also desired Us to keep fast hold to this Belt and be true and hearty, and believe no flying Stories, but advise with You on every Occasion. This, your Belt, was carried to Nowchickano and Kachkawatchiky, and were gladly received; and We have it in charge to thank You for your kindness, and to put You in mind of it by this Opportunity. And We assure You that We have hitherto always followed your Advice and held fast to this Belt with all our Strength, and We will do so for the future, and will charge our Children and their Children to follow our Example and keep up a good Understanding with You, always, and We hope You will always look upon Us as your good and true Brethren; We earnestly desire it of You because We know that our Lives, the Life of our Wives and Children and those yet unborn, depends upon it.'

"Gave a Belt.

"Note.—The String and Belt that the Speaker first took up are those that were given them by the Commissioners of this Province at Lancaster in the Year 1748, and those that he now gave are in Exchange of them.

"Here ended the Shawonese Speech.

"Then the Beaver, the Speaker of the Delawares, stood up and directed his Discourse to the Six Nations, and said:

"'Uncle: I still remember the Time when You first conquered

Us and made Woman of Us, and told Us that You took Us under your Proection, and that We must not meddle with Wars, but stay in the House and mind Council Affairs. We have hitherto followed your directions and lived very easy under your Protection, and no high Wind did blow to make Us uneasy; but now Things seem to take another turn, and a high Wind is rising. We desire You, therefore, Uncle, to have your Eyes open and be watchful over Us, your Cousins, as you have always been heretofore.'

"Gave several Strings of Wampum.

"Then the same Speaker directed his Discourse to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and said:

"'Brother, the Governor of Pennsylvania: by your Speech just now made to Us, You comforted our Hearts and You removed all Doubts and Jealousy; it is, what You said to Us, like the morning Sun. We see now clear your kindness and good will to Us and our allies. We will make it known to all. We are extremely pleased to hear You speak so sincerely and so agreable to Us. We thank You kindly for your Good Will.'

"Gave a String.

"'Brother, the Governor of Pennsylvania: I must now go into the Depth, and put You in Mind of old Histories and our first acquaintance with You, when William Penn first appeared in his Ship on our Lands. We looked in his Face and judged him to be our Brother, and gave him a fast Hold to tie his Ship to; and We told him that a powerful People called the Five United Nations had placed Us here and established a fair and lasting Friendship with Us, and that he the said William Penn and his People shall be welcome to be one of Us, and in the same Union, to which he and his People agreed; and we then erected an everlasting Friendship with William Penn and his People, which We on our side so well as You have observed as much as possible to this Day. We always looked upon You to be one Flesh and Blood with Us. We desire You will look upon Us in the same Light, and let that Treaty of Friendship made by our Forefathers on both sides subsist and be in Force from Generation to Generation; both our Lives, our Wives' and Children's Lives, and those as yet unborn, depends upon it. Pray, Brother, consider well what we say and let it be so.'

"A large Belt.

"By a little String of Wampum, of black and white, they desired the Government of Pennsylvania will take no Notice of any thing that will be said to the contrary, but believe that that what they had said now to be the Truth from their Heart.

"5th.—In the morning I answered the Shawonese and ye Delawares first Speech in the following manner:

"'Brethren the Shawonese: when You first came to Aucquick You made a Speech to Mr. Croghan, directed to the Government

of Pennsylvania, by which You put the Governor in mind of what was said to You at the Treaty in Carlisle last Fall, to wit: that You was desired to be quiet and still, and not meddle with any thing concerning the present Noise of the War, but only Council affairs to Strengthen Yourselves in the best manner You could by keeping a good Correspondence with your allies; and You said You had complied with that advice, and had renewed Friendship with your Indian allies, and least the Governor of Pennsylvania might think that You were in the French Interest, because You were not engaged with the English in the action against the French that happened some time ago near Ohio, You assured the Governor of Pennsylvania that You was, notwithstanding, a Friend and Brother to the English, as We have always been, and that You acted according to their advice; this is the Substance of what You said. I have it in charge from the Governor of Pennsylvania to let You know that he approves of your Proceedings, and desires You will always act agreeable to his advice in every thing, and in so doing You will do well.'

"Gave a String.

"'Brethren the Delawares: You have told Us and put Us in mind of the old Treaties of Friendship subsisting between us, and that You was one People with Us, and that You therefore recommended the Speech made to Us by your Grand Children the Shawonese to be the Truth and a word that came from their Heart, so that we may believe them, which you earnestly desired by a String of Wampum as a Letter of Recommendation from You our old Friends.

"'Brethren the Delawares: it is true You are one People with Us, for You spring out of the same Spot of Ground with us, and are, therefore, our Countrymen and older Inhabitants than We are; as to your present Habitation on Ohio We look upon as your hunting Cabbin only, for here is your Mother Country, and We look upon You as Ourselves. We, therefore, take the Recommendation well, and are glad that You and your Grand Children the Shawonese are of one Mind. We believe that what they said came from the bottom of their Hearts, and there remains no doubt with Us. We thank You both for your kind Speeches.'

"Gave a String.

"Then I took up the big Belt that the Delawares gave me yesterday and said:

"'Brethren: by this Belt you was pleased to put the Governor of Pennsylvania in mind of the first Treaties of Friendship and Acquaintance with the People of Pennsylvania when the great William Penn first arrived on your Land, and You repeated over what then passed between your Forefathers and the said William Penn and his People. I must tell You, Brethren, that that is too

weighty a Matter for me to give You an Answer upon it or to exchange the Belt. I will therefore take it with me to Philadelphia and lay it before the Governor, and he will lay it before his Council and all the old and wise People of Pennsylvania; they are only able to consider this and make a suitable Answer. I am too mean a man and no way empowered nor capable to answer it, but can only say that I am very well pleased with what You said and am glad to carry this Belt to Philadelphia.'

"The Indians in general, as well as those of the Six Nations as Delawares and Shawonese, appeared to be extremely pleased with what I told them, and gave their Approbation in the usual Sound.

"Then Tanacarisson stood up and thanked the Delawares for their Kind Speech made Yesterday to the Six Nations by their Strings of Wampum, and said that their Speech will be sent to the Six Nations by a special Messenger where it ought to be.

"A Shawonese named Danaluqueshon in open Council signified his great Satisfaction in this Meeting, and said that this was a comfortable Day to him and his People.

"On the same day Tanacarisson and Scarrooyady came to consult with me and advised to join with them to desire the Shawonese and Delawares to stay here at Aucquick for some time longer, or at least so long till the new Governor was come in, to which I agreed in behalf of this Government, and I found the String of Wampum, and Scarrooyady made the Speech accordingly to the Shawonese and Delawares this Evening.

"6th.—This day at their own Request I informed them of what passed in Albany at the last Treaty and of the Purchase of the Land that was made there; they seemed not to be very well pleased at first when they heard of it because of such a large Tract that the Six Nations had released to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, but when they were informed of the New England People's Design and the French taking the Ohio Lands in Possession, which they might look upon as lost to them, they were content, but would have been more so if they had received a Part of the Consideration.

"This Evening I let them know that as now all Publick Business was over I would set off to-morrow morning; they, to wit, Tanacarisson and Scarrooyady, desired me to stay longer with them to discourse over some private Affairs as they had hitherto no time, to which I consented, but they got Liquor that Evening and all got drunk; however I stayed, and in the Afternoon Tanacarisson and Scarrooyady got sober, and I learned from them in a private Discourse, first, that the Senecas from time to time had sent Messages by Belts and Strings of Wampum to the Indians on Ohio to order them not to meddle with the French neither in one way nor the other, but stand Neuter and keep their Ears and Eyes towards the Six United Nations.

"Secondly. That the Twightwees had sent several of their head Men this Summer to the Lower Shawonese Town with a Message, the Purport whereof as follows:

"'Brethren the Shawonese: You know that the French has invaded our Country on all Sides, why do You set so still? Will You be Slaves to the French, and suffer them to be Masters of all the Land and all the Game? Rise up and take the Hatchet and follow our Example. We have killed not long ago fifty French Men, all warriors; and in one day five other Nations have joined Us; and if You and your Grandfathers the Delawares will but stir the French will soon be forced to fly.'

"This Article is confirmed by Moses, otherwise called the Song, Mohock Indian, who was present at the Delivery of the Message.

"To which the Shawonese made answer:

"'Brethren the Twightwees: We are surprized at your Request. The Six United Nations have desired Us to sit still and not mind the French, and that We must keep our Ears and Eyes to the Six United Nations, so does our Grandfathers the Delawares. We desire You will spare Us, and leave our Town before the French hear of You and come and kill You here, and plunge Us into the War before the Six United Nations begin it.'

"The Twightwees accordingly went home in disgust, and Tanacarisson and Scarrooyady are out of humour with the Shawonese for not consulting them about an answer to the Twightwees.

"The following Article I was charged to keep to myself, to wit:

"Thirdly. That they, to wit, Tanacarisson and Scarrooyady, were credibly informed that the Mohocks, Oneiders, and Tuscaroras would assist the English against the French as soon as the English gave Proof of their being in earnest.

"Fourthly. Scarrooyady is going to Oneido soon (it is his native Country) to inform himself of the Minds of the Six United Nations, and to use his Endeavours to bring them to side with the English against the French.

"Fifthly. I found that the Shawonese and Delawares are very strictly united together, and that the French made them large Presents, desiring them to stand their Friends or Neuter; they, the Shawonese and Delawares, made them no answer at all, but sent these Men, about twelve in Number, to see their Brethren the English (and I suppose to learn what they are about) and to renew their Friendship with them.

"The Indians' Names that were present in all the Meetings I had with them are as follows:

"Tanacarisson, Seneca Chief,	"*Delawares.*
"Scarrooyady, Oneido Chief,	"The Beaver,
"Tokaswayeston, Seneca Chief,	"Delaware George,

"Seneca George, Chief,
"Captain William, Seneca,
"Kanachjakanyjady, Seneca,
"Sakojaduntha, Cayuga,
"Moses Contjochqua, Mohock,
"Aquogioda, Ditto.
"Dishickamy,
"Hickyjusku,
"William Anderson the Delaware,
"Delaware Jack,
"John Moore the Delaware, & several others.

"*Shawones.*

"Lapechkewe, the Young King.
"Donylequeshoney,
"Wapatykeety, Speaker.
"Kanjuchha, (alias Penn).
"The Runner.
"Catousima, Cachkawatchiky's Grand-child, and Several others.

"The white people that were present for the most were besides myself and my Son,

"Andrew Montour, Interpreter to the Delawares.
"George Croghan.
"Peter Sheffer.
"Hugh Crawford.
"Thomas Simpson, and
"John Owen.

"On the 8th about ten o'Clock I left Aucquick, and came by the way of James Dunning's and Carlisle, and arrived at my house in Heidleberg, September the 12th, 1754.

"CONRAD WEISER."

A Letter to Governor Hamilton from Mr. George Croghan.

"August the 30th, 1754.

"May it please your Honour:

"Yesterday I received your Honour's Express and acquainted the Indians that Mr. Weiser was on the Road with a Message from your Honour to them, which was a very agreeable piece of News to the Indians in General.

"One of the Indian Messengers that went to Ohio is returned, and brings an Account that there will be a great Number of Indians from Ohio here in a few days, as he tells me they are all deserting the French of all Nations; by a French Deserter from the Fort I hear the French are very sickly, and not less than three or four dye of a day.

"I assure your Honour I have been as frugal as in my Power in supplying the Indians since they came here, nor did I know anything of their coming till they got here; for had I been at Wills' Creek when they sat off I should have endeavored to have made them

stay in Virginia at the Camp before I would have drawn such an Expence on the Province or such a Trouble on myself; I was abroad when they came, but as soon as I came home I put a Stop to any Spirits being brought amongst them, nor do I even keep one Drop in my own House.

"I here enclose the Copy of a Letter from Captain Stobo mentioned in his last Letter, with a Plan of the Fort, which I received two days ago by an Indian named Moses. I received a Letter from Col. Innes yesterday who makes his Compliments to your Honour; he informs me that there will be one of the Council from Virginia for certain up here to confer with the Indians soon, who I hope will bear some of the Expence, for I assure your Honour the Expence will be great; there is such a Number of Women and Children and more coming; they have already almost destroyed thirty acres of Indian Corn for me, exclusive of the other Provisions, which are very dear and hard to be got, as the Country takes all Opportunities to extort an extravagant Price for what they have to sell; but if those Indians be to be maintained here, I would be glad the Government would send some Person to purchase the Provisions for them who I would assist as much as in my power, by which means the Government might be full satisfied of the Prices of Provisions and the Quantity that would serve, as well as the Trouble of taking Care of so many of different Tribes.

"Sir, I shall do every thing in my Power to assist Mr. Weiser pursuant to your Honour's Commands.

"I am Your Honour's most humble and most obedient Servant,

"GEO. CROGHAN.

"AUCQUICK, OLD TOWN.

"P. S—Sir, the Indians insist on the Promises made them last Fall by the Government of Virginia and this Government, that is to Supply their Wives and Children with Provisions as they are drove out of their own Country."

—

A Letter from Captain Stobo, 28th July, 1754.

"Sir:

"The Indians are greatly alarmed at a Report said to be brought up by an Indian named Tuscarrora John. He reports that the Half King Monecatootha, and a Shawanese King, &c. to the number of 37, were confined by the English and carried as Prisoners; that John Meinor alias Jack Cork, of Montour's Company, told him so soon as they got them to the Inhabitants they would hang them all and advised him to make his Escape. This was industriously reported the Day before the Shawonese counselled with the French and their Indians. The French made them a very long

and elegant Speech, telling them they did not come to make War with any, but the English would not let them alone; that they expected their Children would not see their Father abused in his old age, but if that they had a mind to join the English they might; if not, and to live in Peace with all, there were Goods for them. This was all I could pick up. The French gave Two very large Belts of Wampum and as many Strings; their Indians gave an equal Number. The French gave them likewise a large Present, vizt 16 very fine Guns, 2 Barr^{ls} Gunpowder and Bullets in Proportion, 16 fine suits of Cloathes, several of a meaner kind, Blankets, Strowds, &^{c} The Shawanese made no Answer at that time, or have I heard they have as yet. 'Tis now reported for certain that the Half King, &c., are killed and their Wives and Children given up to the Barbarity of the Cherokees and Cawtabas, of whom they say there are 300 at the New Store; true or false it has greatly alarmed them, and had it not been for that report I believe a great many Indians of several Nations would have been with You. Now, if true (which I cannot think), there will be no further dependance on any Indians this way and will make our Return very hazardous, but that's not to be considered. The Shawonese, Picts, and Delawares, have had a grand Council by themselves; what they have determined I know not, but I have persuaded some of them to venture to see you. By assuring them they will be used in the best manner and that there is large Presents for the Indians at the New Store, a Present well-timed now will be of great Service. If Peace be made with their Indians, Catawbas, and Cherokees, I hope all will go well. I assure You there was not any of those Indians We call our's at the Battle, except Six or Seven I believe of the Mingoe Nation, Fellows not regarded by them, particularly one English John, he was at Guests with those that were suspected as Spies; I'm informed he intends to see You with some of the rest, take care of them; I send this by Monecatootha's Brother-in-Law, a worthy Fellow, and may be trusted. On the other side You have a Draught of the Fort such as Time and opportunity would admit of at this time, its Garrison consists of 200 Men; Workman and all the Rest went in several detachments to the Number of 1,000, two days hence Mericue (a fine Soldier) goes, so that only Contrecœur with a few young Officers and Cades remain here; a Lieutenant went off some days ago with 200 Men for Provisions, he's daily expected, when he arrives the Garrison will then be 400. La Force is greatly wanted here, no scouting now, he certainly must have been an extraordinary Man amongst them, he is so much regretted and wished for; when We engaged to serve the Country it was expected We were to do it with our Lives, let them not be disappointed, consider the Good of the Expedition without the least Regard to Us; for my part I wou'd die ten thousand Deaths to have the Pleasure of possessing this Fort but one day, they are so vain of their Success at the Meadows, 'tis worse than Death to hear them; strike this Fall, as soon as possible make the Indians ours, prevent Intelligence, get the best, and 'tis done; one hundred trusty Indians

might surprize this Fort, they have Access all day and might lodge themselves so that they might secure the Guard with their Tomhawks, shut the Sally Gate, and the Fort is ours; none but the Guard and Contrecœur stays in the Fort. For God's Sake communicate this but to few, and them you can trust. Intelligence comes here unaccountably, if they should know I wrote I should at least lose the little Liberty I have. I should be glad to hear from You, but take no Notice of this in your's. Excuse Errors, bad Diction, &c., and believe me to be Your

"ROBT. STOBO.

"Pray be kind to this Indian; Shingas and Delaware George have been here."

DRAUGHT OF THE FORT.

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The Governor received the following Letter from Governor Dinwiddie, which was read and ordered to be entered:

"VIRGINIA, Williamsburg, September.

"Sir:

"Your kind Favour of the twelfth ult° I received, and shou'd have answered it before this, but waited the Result of our Assembly in regard to granting Supplies. They met the 22d of last month, and I thought with great Inclination to grant a handsome Sum, they all appearing sensible of the great Danger all the Colonies were exposed to. On the 27th they voted £20,000, which was twice read in the House of Burgesses, the third Reading, which was the 28th, a contentious Spirit possessed some of them, and they proposed a Rider to the Bill, which was to pay £2,500 to Payton Randolph, Esquire, their Agent, sent home with a Complaint against me about the Pistole Affair. Our Treasurer, who is Speaker of the House of Burgesses, inconstitutionally paid this money by a Resolve of their House, which Resolve was last November rejected by the Council; however they tacked this to the Bill of Supply, and sent it up to the Council, and they unanimously rejected the same. They were on this obstinate, and declared they would pass no Bill of Supply without it. I used all the Argument in my Power to shew them the Impropriety of tacking a private Demand to a publick Bill of Supply to his Majesty; and further told them, that Transaction was out of our Hand, for that Resolution and the other extraordinary Resolves they made in the November Session was before the King and Council, and that they should not Notice it till the Resolution and Determination of the King and Council was known. They were obstinate and deaf to all Arguments, and declared without that Rider they would grant no Supply, so that I was obliged to prorogue them till the 17th of October next.

"There appears to me an Infatuation in all the Assemblies in this Part of the World; they are not affected with the imminent Danger they are so obviously exposed to, but seem satisfied to leave the French at full Liberty to perpetrate their utmost Designs to their Ruin.

"I daily expect a King's Ship with Mr. Dobbs, Governor of North Carolina, by whom I hope to have a proper Account of the Affairs lying before the King and Council. This unexpected and unreasonable Conduct of our Assembly put a Stop to all my Operations this Fall, which, if I had been able to put in Execution by a Supply of Money, 'tis probable We might have put a Stop to the French and drove them from the Ohio; whereas now they are left at full Liberty to Murder, plunder, and every thing else they think proper. Our Assembly complains much of the want of proper aid from our neighbouring Colonies; if Mr. Morris is arrived with You, and can bring your People to a proper way of thinking by granting a handsome Supply, it may probably raise the Spirit of our Assembly to renew their vote without this Rider. At present I am under the greatest Apprehensions of the bad Consequences from the lethargic Indolence of the different Colonies in not opposing the Enemy just at our doors, and indeed this Affair gives me more Concern and Anxiety than any thing ever occurred to me.

"A Governor is really to be pitied in the Discharge of his duty to his King and Country in having to do with such obstinate, self-conceited People. The French and Indians are now making Incursions among our Inhabitants in Augusta County, threatening our People to depart from their Plantations, and propose building Forts on Holston's, Green-bryar's, and other Rivers. I keep up the Forces We have, and have ordered a Detachment to these Places to protect our Frontiers.

"I am very sensible of your good Inclinations to support this necessary Expedition; but no Governor can act consistantly without proper Supplies, and am very sorry there is such Supineness in the People of your Province—from their Numbers We had Reason to expect at least one thousand Men; and I think You have acted properly in resigning the Government, and if I could in Honour I should be glad to do the same, for I am quite wearied with the many Obstacles thrown in my way in Discharge of my Duty.

"I fully agree with You that no Expedition can be conducted here with a dependance on the Assemblies, and I have fully represented it home, and have desired aid of Men, Money, and Ordinance Stores, without which I have small Hopes of Success. As they have this affair much at heart in Great Britain, I hope they will grant Us proper Assistance, and that soon, otherwise I fear it will be to late.

"Though You have resigned the Government I shall be glad of a Line from You at your leisure time with your Opinion on Affairs

now in Action., You have done very judiciously in assisting the Half King, &ᵃ, and hope You will represent the Affairs to Mr. Morris on his arrival in its true Light; and pray present my Compliments to him. I had a small knowledge of him in London.

"The Three Independant Companies with the other few Forces are to build a Magazine for Stores at some Place near Wills' Creek and to erect a small Battery for its Protection; for I think with the small Number of Men We have We cannot this Winter venture over the Alleghany Mountains. The Prospect at a distance is, if the Assemblies can be brought to Reason and grant proper Supplies, to make a Push early in the Spring before they can be reinforced from Quebec.

"I am so dejected with this last unexpected Behaviour of our Assembly that I despair of doing what my Inclination and the present Posture of our Affairs demands; however I shall endeavor with Patience, and wait to see what Time may produce. Excuse the Length of this Letter, and believe me to be with great Regard and Respect,

"Sir, Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

"ROBᵀ DINWIDDIE.

"To Governor HAMILTON."

At a Council held in the Council Chamber in the State House at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 15th October, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn, Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

Last night nine Members waited upon the Governor and acquainted him that pursuant to the Charter and Laws of this Province a Quorum of the Representatives had met and proceeded to the Choice of a Speaker, and desired to know when he would be pleased to receive the House that they might present their Speaker. To which the Governor was pleased to say, he would be ready to receive the House this morning at eleven o'Clock in the Council Chamber.

The Governor, by the Secretary, acquainted the House that he was in the Council Chamber ready to receive them with their Speaker; and accordingly the House waited upon the Governor and presented their Speaker, and the Governor was pleased to approve their Choice. Then the Speaker, in the Name and Behalf

Cop.

New York 16 October 1754

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Sir

I have received Accounts from Albany, that several of the Indians of the Irondacks, and other Tribes, domiciliated within your Government; and as I have been well informed, intirely in your direction, — have lately made incursions into this, and the neighbouring Provinces, and have burnt and destroyed the Houses and Barns of the — poor Farmers living at and near Hoseck — within my Government: this, in a time of profound Peace between his Britannick and most Christian Majesty, is a practice so barbarous, as I think is not warranted by any orders, and I persuade my self will not be approved of by the most Christian King; and I would willingly flatter my self, could not have been done by the Encouragement of a person of your Excellency's Rank and Character, and yet you will permit me to say, it is with difficulty I can conceive, that those — Indians would have attempted this piece of cruelty, without your privity and connivance, since those Indians live among the French —

and

His Excellency the Marquis Duquesne

and are under your direction; what adds to the difficulty, is, that I am told the Commanding Officer at Fort St. Frederick, Furnished these Indians and those of Scachtacook, whom they had taken with them, with a Vessel to carry them back to Canada. I am in duty bound to lay these things before the King my Master.

I shall not doubt but your Excellency will, by putting an effectual Stop for the future to such Barbarities, convince the World that the suspicions entertained on this occasion are Groundless, and I hope I shall always the Honour to subscribe my self &c.

James DeLancey.

New York.

Copy of a Letter from the Lieut. Gov.r & Commander in Chief of New York, Dated 9.th Octob.r 1754; to the General of Canada, on the Intentions of the French to Encroach upon the Lands of the Six Nations.

Rec.d Dec.r 9.th 1754.
Read

Copy

16th October 1754

Letter from the Governor of Canada on the Encroachments of the French upon the Lands of the Six Nations.

12
21

My Lords New York 21st October 1754

I omitted in my last of the 5th Instant a duplicate of which is inclosed, to acquaint your Lordships with the Steps taken upon the Incursions of the French Indians into this Province. I immediately ordered the City of Albany to be inclosed with Stockadoes in the places where wanting, the Blockhouses to be repaired, two hundred Men of each Regiment of Militia of the Adjoining Counties to be held in readiness to march, and the whole Regiment in case of need, to the Assistance of Albany: I sent the Independent Company posted in Fort George in this City to Albany, detaining a

Serjeant

Rt Hon.ble the Lords Comm.rs for Trade & Plant.rs

Sergeant and the Invalides to do the Fort Duty; and
had also directed a Fort to be built at a Pass on
Hudson's River about forty miles above Albany, but
no Workmen would undertake it on the Credit of
the Government. I enclose a Copy of my Letter to
the General of Canada. I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

most obedient & most
humble Servant
James DeLancey

New York

Let from James Delancey
Lieut Gov. of New York to
the Board dated 21. Oct. 1754
giving an Acct. of the Measures
he has taken in consequence
of the Incursions made into
of the French Indians into
that Province.

Read 5th Dec.
Read 2d
1754

K K. 29.

New York 21st October 1754.

Sir

I received your Letter of the 6th of May last, and have given Orders to the Treasurer to furnish me with Copies of his Accounts, that I may transmit them to their Lordships. The naval Officer Mr Williams tells me he has given his Accounts to the late Governor Mr Clinton till last year, and is preparing the remainder, which I shall also transmit. I ordered the Deputy Secretary to search in the Office for their Lordships Letters, who says they are not there, and that the Gentlemen Mr Clinton has them: there have none been sent to me, at least I have not received any from their Lordships during my Administration. If I receive any I shall endeavour to give a true Answer to them. I am

Sir

Your most obedient & most humble Servant

James De Lancey

John Pownall Esqr

New York

Letter from James De Lancey Esq.r Lieu.t Gov.r & Comander in Chief of New York, dated y.e 21. of Oct.br 1754. in Answer to one from Mr. Connelle,

Rec.d Dec.br y.e 5.th 1754.
Read —— D.o

Kk 30

Boston October 21st 1754

Dear Sir

Mr. Franklin hath Delivered me the favour of yours Dated together with One from Sir Thomas Robinson, for your care of which and the pleasure, yours own gave me, I am much obliged to you, and finding by last weeks Prints, that you was arrived within your Government, I take the first Opportunity of Congratulating you upon it, and wishing you an easy and Happy administration; if it is not a Successful One, for the publick, I am satisfied, it will be the peoples Fault.

I experienced too much whilst I was in Europe last, the Spirit which you observe still prevails at Home; But the Letter I received from Sir Thomas Robinson, was a very encouraging One; and I have the pleasure at least to flatter myself with Hopes of better things from them.

I have no Bias in my book for managing a Quaker Assembly; If I had, it would be at your Service your predecessor Mr. Hamilton, to Whom I would beg the favor of you to make my Compliments, will give you a better insight into the Light within them than I can pretend to do.

The best advice I can give you is to loose no time for procuring the plan of an Union of the Colonies for their mutual Defence to be Concerted at Home and established by Act of Parliament, as soon as is possible, The proceedings of the Comm at Albany from the Several Governments will shew you their necessity of it; I am Labouring this point

(Tolis Viribus)

Jolis Viribus It would ease you of a Great part of the burthen your Government may probably being upon you otherwise; in the management of Militia, and Indian affairs.

I have one thing to mention to you which I own Gives me Some Surprize; I had at the Desire of the Council wrote to Mr. Delancey to know whether there was any foundation for the reports, that the Commissioners for Indian affairs at Albany had made a Treaty of Neutrality with the Government of New York with the Caghnawaga Indians, and I find by his answer to me that it is so; but he intimates, that it is made for all the Colonies; I am to have Copies from him of all papers relating to it; If a neutrality is concluded for this Government with those Indians, it is what was a dead Secret to us before; I believe it would have been more Satisfactory to this Government; If the Treaty had been transacted by the Commissioners from the Colonies, When at Albany; I am persuaded we shall never ~~[illegible]~~ intrust the care of any of their Interests with the Comm.rs of Indian affairs at Albany.

I shall take a Great pleasure in maintaining a Strict Correspondence with you, both Publick and private; am Obliged to you for the expression of your friendship to my family; and there is no person, who more Sincerely desires to have it in his power to Give you proofs of a Real esteem and friendship for you than

Dr Sir your most faithful & humble Servt

W.m Shirley

To Gov.r Morris

(See next page for P.S.)

P.S. Desired to make my Compliments to Governor Tinker, I will Send you a Copy of my Conference with the Eastern Indians by Mr. Franklin with whom I shall have the pleasure of Drinking your Health to Day at the Provence House.

October 21st. 1754

Letter from Governor Shirley
to Governor Morris.

Hate Delancy in his letter
made owned that a treaty of
Neutrality was concluded with
the Cognawagos by the
Government of New York.
Recommending to me to press
the Union of the Colonies.

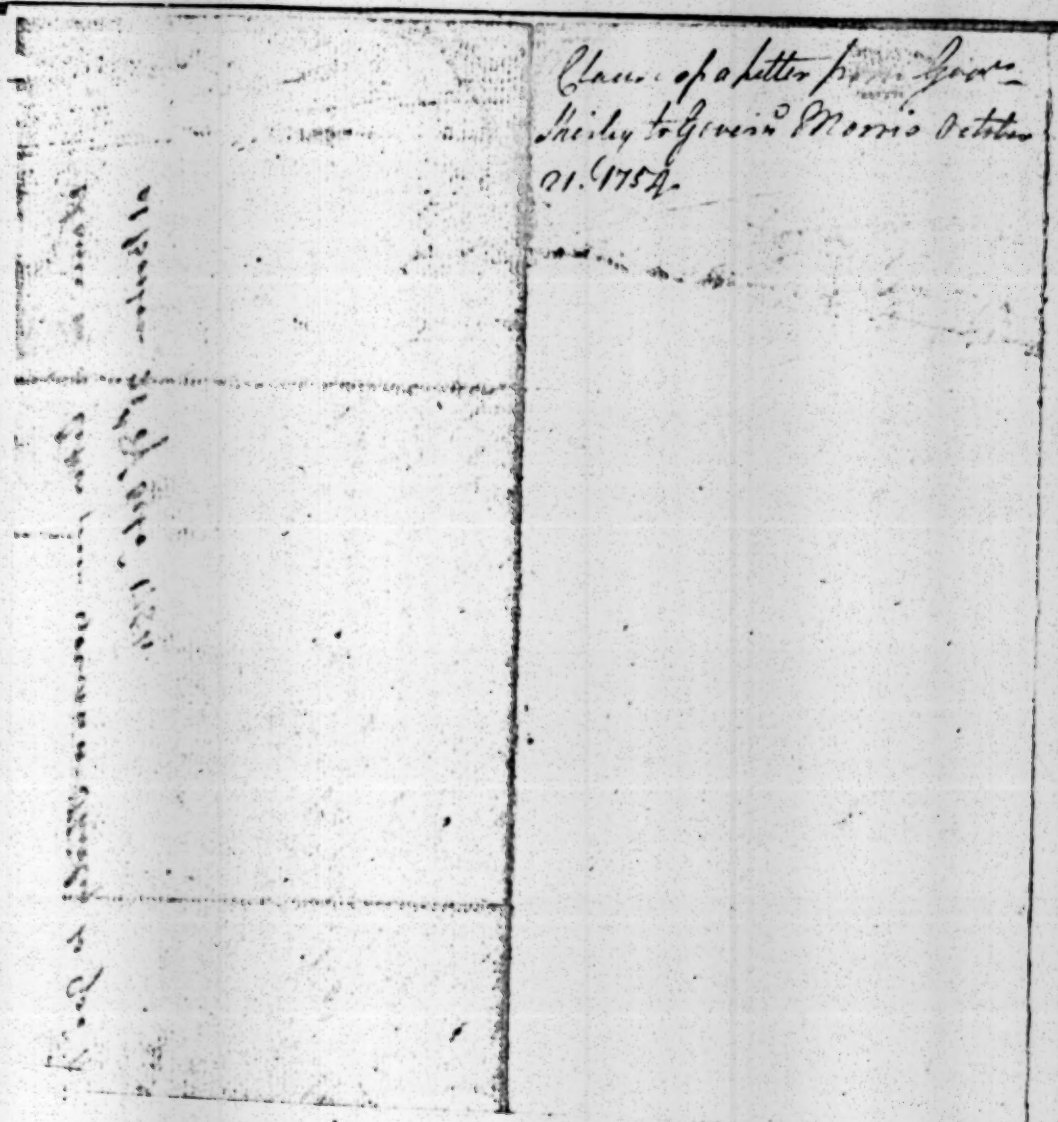
Omitted

The above endorsement
was on the back of the original

Transcriber

Clause in a Letter from Governor Shirley to Gov. Morris Dated at Boston 21st of Octo. 1754.

I have one thing to mention to you, which I own gives me some Surprize, I had, at the Desire of the Council, wrote to Mr Delancey to know, wether there was any foundation for the report, that the Commissioners for Indian Affairs at Albany, had made a Treaty of Neutrality for the Government of New York with the Cayuga Indians, and I find, by his Answer to me, that it is so; but he intimates that it is made for all the Colonies; I am to have Copies from him of all Papers relating to it: If a Neutrality for this Government is concluded for this Government with those Indians it is what was a dead Secret to us before. I believe it would have been more Satisfactory to the Government, if the Treaty had been transacted by the Commissioners from the Colonies, when at Albany: I am perswaded we shall never intrust the Care of any of our Interests, with the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Albany.



Claus. of a letter fr. Govr. Shirley to Govr. Morris October 21. 1754.

are exhausted, so that more than thirty families belonging to that mission, being unable to collect wherewithal to feed themselves, are going to settle at Lake St. Francis, twenty leagues above Montreal, on the south side, where there are very good lands; the Mohawks have agreed with these thirty families to go and settle their village at this place, whither a missionary will accompany them; this change, which costs the King only the erection of a saw-mill, that will furnish abundantly wherewith to build the cabins, becomes very advantageous to the Colony, in as far as it will be easy in time of war, to be informed of all that might occur in the direction of Choueguen; besides, La Présentation, and this new village on Lake St. Francis, the Sault St. Louis and the Lake of the Two Mountains, will form a barrier which will protect the government of Montreal against all incursions, because in that weak quarter, the troops that might be sent thither, will be always supported by these Indians.

I have dwelt much on the consideration of this new expense, though very trifling, but I have reflected that if I had ordered the thirty families in question, to remain at the Sault St. Louis, I could not avoid having to feed them, which would cost an immense sum.

Never was there greater necessity to send back Father Tournois[1] to this Colony, as I have demanded of M. Rouillé.

The English are furious at the Indians abandoning them; they have ample cause, for the government of Orange is wholly unprotected, and there would be great need to attend to it in time of war.

You will have seen by my despatches, my Lord, that I have anticipated your wishes in making the Indians act under pretext of their private grievances, and I so manage that it will not appear that it proceeds from me.

I am with the most profound respect,

My Lord,

Your most humble and
Most obedient servant,
(Signed), DUQUESNE.

Quebec, 31st 8ber, 1754.

Secret Conference held by the Oneidas, Kaskarorens and Cayugas with our domiciliated Indians at Montreal, on the 23d 8ber, 1754.

[Annexed to the Marquis Duquesne's letter of the 31st 8ber, 1754.]

First Belt.

Brethren, We, as it were, place our lives in your hands; our land and yours will henceforth make but one; our interests and yours will be common; the lot of the one will always be the lot of the other, and our object is to form but one mind with you, so that our welfare being mutually dear, we shall not conceal from each other anything we shall have to hope or to fear.

Second Belt.

In answer to a Belt those of the Sault gave them when they were on an embassy to their country.

[1] Rev. JEAN BAPTISTE TOURNOIS had been Missionary at Sault St. Louis since 1742. He fell under the displeasure of the Marquis de la Jonquière, who dismissed him from that mission in 1748, and sent him to France, notwithstanding the solicitations of the Indians. *Collections of Quebec Literary and Historical Society*, 1838, p. 22. — ED.

This Belt was to solicit earnestly the three above named Nations to induce their brethren, the Senecas, to hearken no more to the Evil Spirit that was disturbing them, and to incline more to friendly acts.

Answer.

Brethren, We have executed your design in regard to the Senecas, and expressed ourselves most earnestly on the article that related to the Evil Spirit, by whom they allowed themselves to be ruled. We did not content ourselves with making them long speeches proper to convince them, we have even, as it were, taken hold of their head to assist them by repeatedly shaking it, to discharge all the poison that the Evil Spirit had deposited therein.

The Senecas have not yet answered this Belt, which has been presented to them in consequence, but they have promised to do so immediately.

Third Belt.

Brethren, Hearken unto us. We are about to disclose to you our true sentiments, which are not only ours but also those of all the men and women (*ceux et celles*) who have remained in our village.

Your blood is the same as ours; if heretofore a leaven hath corrupted a portion of it, it is now purified by the things we are about to declare to you.

1st Your warriors and ours will never have but the same object of war, and will march only for the same cause.

2nd Far from accepting the hatchet from the English, notwithstanding his urgent solicitations, we shall forbid our young men not only to touch it, but even to look at it.

3rd We renew here what we said by our first Belt, to convince you fully of the sentiments of union that we wish always to entertain towards you.

Fourth Belt.

Brethren, This Belt represents to you the two villages of the Oneidas, Cayugas and Kaskarorens; you see two paths laid down there; the one or the other will always terminate at the place where you will be well received and attentively heard; these two paths will for the future be well trodden by you and by us, so that the soil thereof will be always firm and even.

In consequence of the above Conference our domiciliated Indians convoked one in the afternoon of the same day, and invited the Oneidas, Kaskarorens, Cayugas, Senecas and Onontagués to it, and gave them to understand that they called them together solely in their own name, and, as it were, unknown to their Father, in order that they should fully know what were their true sentiments.

By a Belt.

Brethren, You see us here in the greatest desolation; your conduct at Orange has made us all shed tears.

We have disowned our blood when we learned that in secret Councils, in the presence of seven Governors, you have betrayed our Father's cause by agreeing with the English Evil Spirit to divest yourselves in his favor of the Beautiful river, notwithstanding the great length of time our Father has been in possession of it.

Brethren, Are you ignorant of the difference between our Father and the English? Go see the forts our Father has erected, and you will see that the land beneath his walls is still hunting ground, having fixed himself in those places we frequent, only to supply our wants; whilst the English, on the contrary, no sooner get possession of a country than the game is forced to leave it; the trees fall down before them, the earth becomes bare, and we find among them hardly wherewithal to shelter us when the night falls.

Brothers, Reflect on what we say to you by this Belt, and do not leave us long in ignorance of your mode of thinking of us, who regard as suspicious all sentiments which do not agree with our own and those of our Father.

The Iroquois cabin promised to come this spring to answer this Belt; it is supposed to be given unknown to their Father, in order that all the Iroquois may feel fully persuaded that it is not at his solicitation that our domiciliated Indians so speak.

Signature of the Marquis Duquesne.

Belt of the Oneidas in answer to one that the Missionaries of the Sault sent them, and which has been brought to the Mission by the Deputies from the Nation.

[Annexed to the Marquis Duquesne's letter of 31st 8ber, 1754.]

The Belt sent last spring was to this purpose:

1st The Onontagés, your neighbors, are dangerous; they seek to alarm you respecting our Father's conduct, accusing him of having formed the design of staining your and their mats with blood.

2nd Distrust the English, who propose to purchase your lands; they are seeking to spread themselves abroad, only in order to hem you in.

3rd Be careful not to shake the Tree of Peace which our Father, Mr de Calières, has so firmly planted.

4th In order to enjoy quietly the sweets of peace, which you will not taste except by participating in good works, try the religion professed by your brethren of the Sault; desire to be praying, and we shall go and instruct you.

The answer is:

1st We will be deaf to the words of the Onontagés as well as to those of all others, unless they accord with those of our Father.

2d The English will never obtain anything from us, nor even settle on our lands.

3d Far from shaking the Tree of Peace, we will ward off from it as much as we can, the blows of the hatchet that the evil disposed might direct against it.

4th In regard to prayer, this is the word of only one of our two villages, the other not having yet taken the matter into deliberation. This is what it says: Father, you will be the master of our minds to teach us to pray; we will listen to you wherever you will be, provided brandy, which disturbs the heads of our young men, does not know the path where your fire will be lighted; we envy the lot of those to whom the Master of Life sends people to instruct them; you have made us all glad by your good word, but assure us of the time when you will begin to take pity on us. These two strings of wampum thank you on behalf of the village, for the good tobacco you have sent us.

Signature of M. Duquesne.

in a state of defence, inasmuch as the settlers who work at it are incredibly lazy. Sieur de Verger, the Commandant there, does his best to encourage them at this work, which is important under actual circumstances; this officer informs me that a fleet of four ships has arrived at Halifax, and that another of a like number is expected; this appears to me to be an indication that Old England proposes something on that side, for the English are bringing considerable people there.

It seems to me that by the census of the Island of St. John, which has been sent me by Sieur de Bonaventure, formerly Commandant there, that place is going to be considerable, if the harvest has been good; it would in that case be the granary of Louisbourg and of Acadia.

I never thought of establishing a post at Peskadamokauti before having received your orders, especially since Father Germain has assured me that not a farmer could be placed there, inasmuch as it is all rock. I have, meanwhile, informed Sieur de Boishebert, who commands at the River St. John, to repair thither whenever he can, in order to have a correct draught of it, and I expect that officer will render me an exact account thereof.

Agreeably to your orders, I have sent Sieur Pellegrin to the Seven Islands; from the plan he has drawn of the place I have remarked that it would take at least two batteries to prevent any of the enemy's ships anchoring there, which would cost an immense sum, not only for their construction but also for the maintenance of the garrisons, because the soil there is good for nothing. 'Tis true that the anchorage is excellent.

I am with most profound respect,

Sir,

Your most humble and

most obedient servant,

Quebec, the 13th 8ber, 1754. DUQUESNE.

M. Duquesne to M. de Machault.

Quebec, 28th October, 1754.

My Lord,

I have received the letter you did me the honor to write me on the 19th of August last, which reached me on the 22nd instant, wherein you are pleased to inform me of the views the King of England has manifested up to the present time, for the maintenance of peace, and that you presume he has not authorized the movements on the River Oyo.

Without referring you, my Lord, to all that I have had the honor to submit to you in my last despatches, I have to observe to you, in addition, that it is not possible that the King of Great Britain has not consented to and even ordered all the movements which the English are making on this Continent, and the consequences thereof appear to me very just.

1st The Governors of New England, besides being independent one of the other, cannot levy troops without an order of the King of Great Britain, and you will have observed by Mr Washington's Journal that all the Provinces have furnished a quota to his detachment. I know, moreover, that the Quakers, who never make war, have also furnished their contingent.

2nd Sieur Drouillon, an officer who was with Sieur de Jumonville's detachment, has been taken by this same Mr Washington as a prisoner of war, as you will also see by his Journal.

3d The irruption made by Mr Shirley, Governor of Boston, who has marched with a body of troops of 700 men to seize the upper part of the River Narantchouac where he has had a fort built, without waiting for the determination of the boundaries, as I have had the honor to inform you.

4th The Governor of Halifax has proclaimed throughout Acadia that every Acadian who will be taken with arms in his hands against them, shall be hanged.

5th The solemn congress held at Orange in the month of July by seven Governors, to persuade the Nations they had invited thither to attack us.

After the assassination of M. de Jumonville and the above consequent proofs, do you believe, my Lord, that I am authorized to anticipate a rupture on the part of the English? but it is easy to perceive, that before arriving at that point, they wish to gain over our domiciliated Indians, since they employ all sorts of artifices to corrupt them, and do not disdain even the most unworthy means to effect their object.

On the other hand, I remark that the English, who have observed my cautious conduct, take advantage of it to encroach on our lands; and I will confess to you, my Lord, that my position, as critical as it is disagreeable, in consequence of the prudence I have to observe, so as not to occasion a rupture, induces them to make attempts to push on to the neighborhood of Quebec.

You will see, my Lord, by the reports I have already submitted, how cautious I have been in my conduct, and I defy the English to complain that I have given the least interruption to the good understanding which is so strongly recommended to me, but it is evident that the Governors of New England have not the same orders, or do not execute them, inasmuch as they have violated the most sacred laws, and think only of usurpations.

As for the expense, which concerns me, I am unceasingly occupied in diminishing it, but troops cannot be moved here without great cost.

I am with the most profound respect,

My Lord,

Your most humble and

Most obedient servant,

DUQUESNE.

M. Duquesne to M. de Machault.

My Lord,

The Indians of the Five Nations, whom I have had the honor to announce to you, have at length arrived at Montreal, but they have been careful to prolong their voyage, in order to avoid meeting me, being aware that it is indispensable that the Governor repair to Quebec either for the autumn despatches, or to wind up the affairs of the Colony, which accumulate at that season.

therefore imagine, that either you, or the rest of his Govrs, will suffer the least neglect or delay, in the performance of the present service, now strongly recommended to you; particularly with regard to the following points: vizt: That you should carefully provide a sufficient quantity of fresh victuals, at the expence of your Governt, to be ready for the use of the Troops at their arrival.—That you shd likewise, furnish the Officers, who may have occasion to go from place to place, with all necessaries for travelling by Land, in case there are no means of going by sea. And: That you should use your utmost diligence, and authority, in procuring an exact observance of such orders, as shall be issued from time to time by the Commander in chief, for quartering the Troops, impressing carriages, and providing all necessaries for such forces, as shall arrive, or be raised within your Governt.

As the Articles above-mentioned are of a local and peculiar nature, and arising entirely within your Governt, it almost needless for me to acquaint you, that His Majty will expect, that the charge thereof be defrayed by His subjects belonging to the same. But, with regard to such other articles, wch are of a more general concern, it is the King's pleasure, that the same should be supplied by a common fund, to be established for the benefit of all the Colonies collectively in North America; for which purpose, you will use your utmost endeavours to induce the assembly of your province, to raise forthwith as large a sum as can be afforded, as their contribution to this common fund, to be employed, provisionally, for the General service of North America, (particularly for paying the charge of levying the Troops, to make up the complements of the Regiments abovementioned) until such time, as a plan of general union of His Majtys Northern Colonies, for their common defence, can be perfected.

You will carefully conferr, or correspond as you shall have opportunities upon every thing relative to the present service, with the said General; Sir Willm Pepperell and Govr Shirley, or either of them; and as it is the King's intention to give all proper encouragement to such persons, who shall engage to serve upon this occasion, you will acquaint all such persons, in the King's name that they will receive arms and cloathing from hence, and that they shall be sent back if desired to their respective habitations, when the service in America shall be over.

As the several Governors, in all the King's Provinces and Colonies in North America, will receive by this conveyance a letter to the same effect with this, which I now send you, they will be prepared at the same time, to obey His Majtys commands; and I am to direct you to correspond with all, or either of them, occasionally, as you shall find it expedient for the General service.

I am ettc.

T Robinson

Representation to the King on the Proceedings of the Congress at Albany.

[Plantations General, (B. T.) XLIII, 402.]

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty.

We have lately received a letter from James Delancey Esqr Lieutenant Governor of Your Majesty's Province of New York, transmitting to us the proceedings of the Commissioners of

the Colonies of New York, New Hampshire, Massachusets Bay, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maryland, & Pennsylvania, assembled at Albany in June last, pursuant to Your Majesty's orders, to renew and confirm the ancient Covenant Chain or Treaties of Friendship & Alliance between Your Majesty's subjects and the Six Nations or Tribes of Indians; and the said Commissioners having taken into their consideration several other matters of the greatest consequence to the Security and welfare of all Your Majesty's Colonies in North America, we think it our duty humbly to lay the whole of their transactions before Your Majesty.

The chief points (besides that of the Treaty with the Indians) which the Commissioners had under their consideration at this meeting, were,—

1. The management and direction of Indian Affairs.
2. The strengthening the Frontiers: and
3 The providing for these services by a general plan of Union of the Colonies for their mutual defence and security.

With respect to the last of these points, the Commissioners having agreed upon a plan of Union, which, as far as their sense and opinion of it goes, is complete in itself, we shall not presume to make any observations upon it, but transmit it simply for Your Majesty's consideration; but as they have delayed making any provisions for, or pointing out any measures of carrying the two first of these points into execution, till the Plan of Union agreed upon by them shall have been considered by their respective Assemblies and afterwards offered to the consideration of Parliament, and as such delay may prove not only prejudicial but fatal to Your Majesty's interest and the security of the Colonies, if Indian Affairs should continue in the mean time to be mismanaged, as the Commissioners declare they now are, and if it should be neglected to build some forts upon the frontiers within the territory of the Six Nations, which the Commissioners are of opinion is, in the present situation of affairs, of indispensable necessity: we cannot but esteem it our duty to lay our thoughts upon these two points more fully before Your Majesty, and to submit whether some provisional measure for their execution should not be directed as to Your Majesty shall seem most expedient for preventing the fatal effects of such delay, in the present critical situation of affairs.

The management of Indian Affairs and strengthening the Frontiers are, in general points, of the utmost consequence to the very being and preservation of Your Majesties Colonies. In this light they are considered by the Commissioners met at Albany, and are the chief objects of the Union they propose. It is their unanimous opinion that the administration of these services should not for the future be intrusted to the Commissioners, nor even to the Assemblies of any one Province, whereby they may be directed to their own particular local purposes, but that they should be under one general Administration directed to the general interest and supported at the general expence of the whole; and this being their sense of the utility and importance of these two points, the danger of any neglect or delay in their execution is obvious and apparent. For it is hardly to be supposed that any one Province will, after such a Declaration, effectually undertake at its own particular charge the execution of these measures, however fatal a neglect of them may prove to the general interest of the whole or even it's own particular security.

The management of Indian Affairs, at least those of the Six Nations, who are the best allies and form the strongest barrier to the British Settlements, has been hitherto chiefly intrusted to the Province of New York, the Assemblies of which have taken upon themselves, by Acts of their own, the sole direction of this service, and have established such regulations with

respect to the trade as they have thought proper; the execution of which and the distribution and application of the Presents voted by them, have been intrusted to Commissioners appointed by such Acts. How well soever these regulations may have been intended, we cannot take upon us to say that they have been either properly adapted to the general interest and convenience of the Indians, or to the preservation of our friendship with them; and we have reason to fear that the intrusting the sole execution of them to Commissioners without restraining them from being traders, or establishing a proper mode of enquiry into their conduct, has been attended with great prejudice to Your Majesty's service. We find frequent complaints of the Indians that they have been dispossessed of their lands by fraudulent conveyances, and without a valuable consideration; that they have been cheated of their presents by the knavery of the traders before they could leave Albany, which had usually been the place for all Indian Conferences; that their people have been debauched and destroyed by the infamous practice of supplying them with rum, of their fondness for which the traders do usually avail themselves to carry their fraudulent views into execution.

That all conferences with them have been held at Albany, more for the sake of the private interest and convenience of the traders than theirs.

That occasional or particular conferences or interviews are seldom or ever held with them, however the exigency of affairs may require it; that little or no provision is made for the residence of Smiths or other artificers amongst them at their own Castles, or for smaller occasional presents as their circumstances may require at the trading-house at Oswego — reproaching the Managers with the opposite conduct of the French in these particulars, and complaining of the dangerous influence they have thereby gained over their young and unexperienced people. All which we believe to be true, being informed that such occasional presents interviews and residence of artificers, produce much greater effects, than presents of almost any extent made at general conferences.

The constant repetition of these complaints at almost every conference, and particularly at the last, at which those relative to their lands and the neglect of particular interviews, were urged with uncommon warmth, as well as the explicit declaration of the Commissioners in their representation of their sense of the mismanagement which has subsisted in most of the above particulars, seem to us equally to prove the necessity of an alteration in this management, as the dangerous consequences which may ensue, if such alteration is not more speedily made than the proposed delay, till a plan of Union is settled, admits of.

With respect to strengthening the Frontiers, it appears from the proceedings of the Commissioners that a proposition was made on the part of New York for two Forts to be built, one at Onondage, the other at Tierondequat on the Lake Ontario, and three Forts upon the other frontiers towards Lake Champlain & Lake St Sacrament; that this general measure was approved of by the Commissioners with the addition of a Naval establishment upon the Lake to secure the navigation. That the expediency of this measure was further confirmed by the complaints made by the Six Nations of the nakedness of our frontiers, together with the reverse picture which they drew of the French strength and the effects of that strength upon them.

The utility and necessity of this measure being thus established by the concurrent sense of all parties concerned, the danger which may attend a delay in the execution of it, until a Plan of Union can be settled and approved of, seems equally obvious upon this general view, with that which we have already stated as likely to attend a delay in the execution of proper measures for the management of Indian Affairs; and we humbly beg leave to submit to Your

Majesty some considerations, which may serve to set the expediency of this measure in a clear light.

While the Six Nations were possessed of all that territory which surrounds the two great Lakes of Erie and Ontario, which they used as their hunting grounds, and before the French had erected Forts which intercept their passage to part of those lands and cut off their communication with the far Western Indians, their alliance alone & submission to the British Government formed a sufficient barrier to Your Majesty's Colonies in the northern part of America; and for that reason forts were not then judged necessary, or at least only for the purposes of carrying on trade; but since the French have erected their forts at Niagara, by which they have not only cut off the passage of the Six Nations to their hunting grounds, but have acquired the greatest influence over the Senecas, one of the most powerful of those nations within whose territory those forts are built, unless measures of the same nature are pursued on the part of Great Britain, those Nations must in a very short time become dependent upon the French, and instead of a barrier, be made subservient to their encroachments upon the British Colonies.

The Colony of New York has long foreseen these consequences, and has from time to time projected the building forts, both at Niagara and Tierondequat; which last place, extremely well situated for a port and proper for commanding the navigation of the Lake, was purchased long since by that Province with this view.

They have always however been averse to taking upon themselves the expence which would have attended an effectual execution of these measures, & there is the less reason to believe they will do it now, as it has been the declared sense of the Commissioners that this is a measure of general utility, & that the expence of it ought to be borne at the general charge.

Upon the whole therefore, if Your Majesty should be of opinion that effectual measures should be immediately entered into for putting Indian Affairs under a provisional direction and securing the Frontiers by erecting forts and building vessels upon the Lakes without waiting until a plan of Union can be settled, by which a proper provision may be made for these services at the general expence of the Colonies; we would humbly submit whether it might not be adviseable that an Instruction should be immediately sent to the Lieutenant Governor of New York to inquire into and give effectual satisfaction to the Indians in respect to the Complaint they have made concerning their lands, and that Colonel Johnson should be appointed Colonel over the Six Nations, in the same manner and with the same allowance as when the expedition against Canada was in agitation in the last war; that he should be intrusted with the disposition and application of all occasional presents Your Majesty may think proper to make to these Indians, with the nomination and appointment of all such smiths and other artificers as may be thought proper to be settled amongst them, and in general the direction of all other services not already provided for by the laws of New York

The reasons of our taking the liberty to recommend this Gentleman to Your Majesty are the representations which have been made to us of the great service he did during the late war, in preserving the friendship of the Indians and engaging them to take up the hatchet against the French; the connexions he has formed by living amongst them, and habituating himself to their manners and customs; the publick testimony they have given at the last meeting of their friendship for, and confidence in, him; and above all the request they make that the sole management of their affairs may be intrusted to him.

With regard to securing the Frontiers, we cannot take upon us to say, whether all or what part of the forts proposed by New York may be immediately necessary; but we think, for the reasons we have already given, that one at least should be erected at Tirondequat; that the harbour there should be fortified and that armed vessels, superior in strength and number to those the French may have upon the Lake be forthwith built, to command the navigation and secure to us a free and open communication and correspondence with the Indians.

All which is most humbly sebmitted.

DUNK HALIFAX
J. GRENVILLE
T. PELHAM
ANDREW STONE.
JAMES OSWALD.

Whitehall
Octr 29. 1754

Secret Instructions to General Braddock.

GEORGE R. Secret Instructions for Our Trusty and Welbeloved Edward Braddock Esqre Major General of Our forces, and whom we have appointed General and Commander, of all and singular Troops and Forces, that are now in North America, and that shall be sent or raised there, to vindicate Our just rights, and possessions, in those parts. Given at Our Court at St James's the 25th day of Novr 1754. in the 28th year of Our Reign.

1st WHEREAS the French will, in all probability, endeavour to reinforce the several Posts, they now have on the River Ohio, and on the Lakes to the Westward of it, by sending Troops up the River Mississipi; it is our Royal will and pleasure, that, as the season will allow Our Troops to take the field much sooner, in the Southern parts, than in any other parts of our Colonies, you shall begin your operations there as soon at the weather will permitt; You will therefore, order the Troops to be carried up the Potomac River, as high as Wills's Creek, where we have ordered Sir John St Clair Our Deputy Quarter Master General, to erect a proper covering, and to provide Magazines, and, also, to prepare a Park for the Amunition and artillery, which may be necessary upon this first part of your expedition; and we have likewise given directions to Our said Deputy Quarter Master General, to provide the proper conveniences for a General Hospital at Hampton and for a flying Hospital at the Creek beforementioned.

2nd—As soon as you shall have been able to drive the French from their Posts upon the Ohio, you will take the proper measures for erecting a good and sufficient Fort, on the most convenient pass, upon the said River, and you will leave a strong garrison consisting of the three Independent Companies now in Virginia, sustained by such a part, or the whole of the Provincial Troops, as you shall find necessary, to defend the same, & to protect the Indians, in those parts, as well as our settlements, which have lately been broke up.

3rd The next service, which is of the greatest importance, and therefore demands the utmost care, and attention, is, the dislodging the French from the Forts, they now have at the Falls

[illegible] for the reasons assigned by
[illegible] May last, on the Report of the Committee
[illegible] of the Trustees and desired his dissent might be
[illegible] entered accordingly. ✓

The following Warrant being read as usual was Sign'd
Honour Vizt

To John Van Rensselaer for furnishing fire wood and candles for the Garisons in the Forts Albany Schenectady and Fort Hunter from 1st September 1752 to 1st Sept. 1753 } £27

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York on Thursday the thirty first day of October 1754 Present His Honour

Present The Hono.ble James De Lancey Esq. Lieut Govr. &c.

M.r Murray	M.r Chambers
M.r Murray	
M.r Holland	M.r Smith.

His Honour Communicated the following Papers Viz.t

A Letter from the Commissioners for Indian affairs of the Province at Albany acquainting his Honour that they have fixed upon a Settlement at Albany and at Schenectady, and that Carpenters and Labourers were then, but the Carpenters refused going to build the Fort unless they had Eight Shillings per diem & Boarding them selves and their Mates besides them.

A Letter from the said Commissioners of the 27th Instant with a copy of an Intimate of their proceedings that day, which were read. In which Letter the Commissioners desire his Honours Answer in relation to the Treaty with the Cachnawaga French Indians, and his directions how to act with that Nation in this critical time, being of Opinion it is very necessary to keep up a Friendship with them.

A Letter from the said Commissioners of the 30th Instant with their proceedings from the 29th September to the 4th October which were read. In which came inclosed two Letters that had been delivered to the Commissioners by seven delegates of the Cachnawaga Nation Viz.t

A Letter of the 11th September from the Governor General of Canada to the French Missionary at Cachnawaga relating to the mischief done at Mosack in which the General says that when he was informed of a party of Indians going towards this Government he

hopes they had taken, upon which he
town, instead of visiting him, as they ought
hopes the manner, in which he has treated
Disobedience, will prevent their doing any thing
contrary to his Will.

And a Letter from two Missionaries of the
St Louis to the Commissioners without date, inclosing
general Letter and assuring the Commissioners that
Cachenawagas were much offended at their allies the
of Buchanan for taking this step, and that far from the
consented together with them, or secretly approved of it, the
desire them, the Missionaries to inform the General of it,
they did who sent that Letter as an answer thereto.

It appears by the Proceedings of the Commissioners that the
Cachenawaga Delegates renewed their promises of Obedience

A Letter of the Inhabitants of the Town of Schon
was read praying his Honour to use his endeavours with the
two Branches of the Legislature to make provision for fortifying
at Schon and appointing out some alteration necessary to be
made to Conditions &c.

A Letter was read signed by Henrich, Brant
& other Indian Chiefs of the Canesetiana Castle praying
that Mr Kerr may be appointed their private Interpreter to attend
on the future Conferences between them and the persons who shall negotiate
Compensations for their Lands in order to prevent disputes
between them and the white people.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City
of Albany on Monday the first day of November
1784.

Present

The Honble James De Lancey Esq Lieut Govr &c.

Mr Kennedy
Mr Chambers
Mr Smith.

This being the day appointed for the hearing of such
persons as should offer objections against granting the prayer
of the petition of Samuel Ogden and John Woolley for a Ferry
from Hempstead Harbour to Long Island. Stephen Thorn appear
ed against the petitioners accompanied with a petition in behalf
of himself and others Inhabitants of Hempstead

praying

2nd Sieur Drouillon, an officer who was with Sieur de Jumonville's detachment, has been taken by this same Mr Washington as a prisoner of war, as you will also see by his Journal.

3d The irruption made by Mr Shirley, Governor of Boston, who has marched with a body of troops of 700 men to seize the upper part of the River Narantchouac where he has had a fort built, without waiting for the determination of the boundaries, as I have had the honor to inform you.

4th The Governor of Halifax has proclaimed throughout Acadia that every Acadian who will be taken with arms in his hands against them, shall be hanged.

5th The solemn congress held at Orange in the month of July by seven Governors, to persuade the Nations they had invited thither to attack us.

After the assassination of M. de Jumonville and the above consequent proofs, do you believe, my Lord, that I am authorized to anticipate a rupture on the part of the English? but it is easy to perceive, that before arriving at that point, they wish to gain over our domiciliated Indians, since they employ all sorts of artifices to corrupt them, and do not disdain even the most unworthy means to effect their object.

On the other hand, I remark that the English, who have observed my cautious conduct, take advantage of it to encroach on our lands; and I will confess to you, my Lord, that my position, as critical as it is disagreeable, in consequence of the prudence I have to observe, so as not to occasion a rupture, induces them to make attempts to push on to the neighborhood of Quebec.

You will see, my Lord, by the reports I have already submitted, how cautious I have been in my conduct, and I defy the English to complain that I have given the least interruption to the good understanding which is so strongly recommended to me, but it is evident that the Governors of New England have not the same orders, or do not execute them, inasmuch as they have violated the most sacred laws, and think only of usurpations.

As for the expense, which concerns me, I am unceasingly occupied in diminishing it, but troops cannot be moved here without great cost.

I am with the most profound respect,

My Lord,

Your most humble and

Most obedient servant,

DUQUESNE.

M. Duquesne to M. de Machault.

My Lord,

The Indians of the Five Nations, whom I have had the honor to announce to you, have at length arrived at Montreal, but they have been careful to prolong their voyage, in order to avoid meeting me, being aware that it is indispensable that the Governor repair to Quebec either for the autumn despatches, or to wind up the affairs of the Colony, which accumulate at that season.

You will see, my Lord, by my answer to their propositions, that I do not spare them, and that I reproach them not only with their infamous treason, but threaten, moreover, to punish them, if they do not soon recall the dogs of their village, whom they have unleashed to bite me.

The Canadians, who have always observed towards these Five Nations a regard bordering on weakness, even in cases when they essentially failed us, have been partly pained with the tone I used towards these Indians; but I could not restrain myself because it is they who have compromised me with the English, and no other course but threats remained to put an end to their treason.

I am very well pleased that I assumed a haughty tone, in consequence of the good effects my menaces have produced, to such a degree, that our domiciliated Indians, who assisted at this Council, and who feared that I would mollify, have thanked me for the firmness of my language; and the Five Nations even, when leaving, could not help saying that I was a Man, and that they would assuredly come to see me at the beginning of the spring.

I consider it my duty to remark to you, my Lord, that these Indians who were in the habit of coming annually, have not condescended to come since my arrival in this Colony, because they were plotting some mischief with the English; but having learned that the Cayugas, who have been always faithful to us, had agreed with the Oneidas and the Taskarorens not to meddle with their design; chance willed it that our domiciliated Indians of the Sault and the Lake asked my leave to visit these three last nations, their brethren, to confirm their sentiments. I took advantage of that negotiation to engage them to make them come down, and it has been productive of all the good I could hope from it.

The Onontagues, who have had recourse, without success, to every expedient to prevent their brethren coming down to Montreal, have determined to follow them, but at a distance, because they wished not to appear to me suspicious, and they have not assisted at the Council, except as hearers; I paid them well for their curiosity, and as this circumstance was kept concealed from me, I sent them, after the Conference, a message ordering them to reunite with their brethren.

The Senecas, who are the most numerous of the Five Nations, have not dared to come down because they feel themselves the most culpable; but they have sent two of their young men to assist at the Conference, who will not fail to report my words, which can have only a very good effect.

There is great appearance, my Lord, that the dismemberment of the Cayugas, Oneidas and Taskarorens will considerably counterbalance any bad part the Senecas and the Onondagas may take; I shall be at least advised by the former, but as there is question of marching again to the River Oyo, I have had the policy to engage them to come down next spring, in order to keep them in check as far as regards the execution of any evil design they might project during the winter.

I must not omit informing you, my Lord, that after the solemn Conference, the Cayugas, Oneidas and Taskarorens invited our domiciliated Indians to a secret Council, even unknown to the Baron de Longueuil, the Governor, in order that I alone may be privy to their real sentiments. You perceive, my Lord, that greater affection cannot be required of Indians than these evince for me; I believe it sincere, because the Cayugas, who have always been faithful to us, have become security for those they have brought in their party.

My negotiation with the Mohawks succeeds admirably, as you will see by their propositions, but they cannot settle in the village of the Sault St. Louis, because the lands in that quarter

are exhausted, so that more than thirty families belonging to that mission, being unable to collect wherewithal to feed themselves, are going to settle at Lake St. Francis, twenty leagues above Montreal, on the south side, where there are very good lands; the Mohawks have agreed with these thirty families to go and settle their village at this place, whither a missionary will accompany them; this change, which costs the King only the erection of a saw-mill, that will furnish abundantly wherewith to build the cabins, becomes very advantageous to the Colony, in as far as it will be easy in time of war, to be informed of all that might occur in the direction of Choueguen; besides, La Présentation, and this new village on Lake St. Francis, the Sault St. Louis and the Lake of the Two Mountains, will form a barrier which will protect the government of Montreal against all incursions, because in that weak quarter, the troops that might be sent thither, will be always supported by these Indians.

I have dwelt much on the consideration of this new expense, though very trifling, but I have reflected that if I had ordered the thirty families in question, to remain at the Sault St. Louis, I could not avoid having to feed them, which would cost an immense sum.

Never was there greater necessity to send back Father Tournois[1] to this Colony, as I have demanded of M. Rouillé.

The English are furious at the Indians abandoning them; they have ample cause, for the government of Orange is wholly unprotected, and there would be great need to attend to it in time of war.

You will have seen by my despatches, my Lord, that I have anticipated your wishes in making the Indians act under pretext of their private grievances, and I so manage that it will not appear that it proceeds from me.

I am with the most profound respect,

My Lord,

Your most humble and

Most obedient servant,

Quebec, 31st 8ber, 1754. (Signed), DUQUESNE.

Secret Conference held by the Oneidas, Kaskarorens and Cayugas with our domiciliated Indians at Montreal, on the 23d 8ber, 1754.

[Annexed to the Marquis Duquesne's letter of the 31st 8ber, 1754.]

First Belt.

Brethren, We, as it were, place our lives in your hands; our land and yours will henceforth make but one; our interests and yours will be common; the lot of the one will always be the lot of the other, and our object is to form but one mind with you, so that our welfare being mutually dear, we shall not conceal from each other anything we shall have to hope or to fear.

Second Belt.

In answer to a Belt those of the Sault gave them when they were on an embassy to their country.

[1] Rev. JEAN BAPTISTE TOURNOIS had been Missionary at Sault St. Louis since 1742. He fell under the displeasure of the Marquis de la Jonquière, who dismissed him from that mission in 1748, and sent him to France, notwithstanding the solicitations of the Indians. *Collections of Quebec Literary and Historical Society*, 1838, p. 22. — ED.

This Belt was to solicit earnestly the three above named Nations to induce their brethren, the Senecas, to hearken no more to the Evil Spirit that was disturbing them, and to incline more to friendly acts.

Answer.

Brethren, We have executed your design in regard to the Senecas, and expressed ourselves most earnestly on the article that related to the Evil Spirit, by whom they allowed themselves to be ruled. We did not content ourselves with making them long speeches proper to convince them, we have even, as it were, taken hold of their head to assist them by repeatedly shaking it, to discharge all the poison that the Evil Spirit had deposited therein.

The Senecas have not yet answered this Belt, which has been presented to them in consequence, but they have promised to do so immediately.

Third Belt.

Brethren, Hearken unto us. We are about to disclose to you our true sentiments, which are not only ours but also those of all the men and women (*ceux et celles*) who have remained in our village.

Your blood is the same as ours; if heretofore a leaven hath corrupted a portion of it, it is now purified by the things we are about to declare to you.

1st Your warriors and ours will never have but the same object of war, and will march only for the same cause.

2nd Far from accepting the hatchet from the English, notwithstanding his urgent solicitations, we shall forbid our young men not only to touch it, but even to look at it.

3rd We renew here what we said by our first Belt, to convince you fully of the sentiments of union that we wish always to entertain towards you.

Fourth Belt.

Brethren, This Belt represents to you the two villages of the Oneidas, Cayugas and Kaskarorens; you see two paths laid down there; the one or the other will always terminate at the place where you will be well received and attentively heard; these two paths will for the future be well trodden by you and by us, so that the soil thereof will be always firm and even.

In consequence of the above Conference our domiciliated Indians convoked one in the afternoon of the same day, and invited the Oneidas, Kaskarorens, Cayugas, Senecas and Onontagués to it, and gave them to understand that they called them together solely in their own name, and, as it were, unknown to their Father, in order that they should fully know what were their true sentiments.

By a Belt.

Brethren, You see us here in the greatest desolation; your conduct at Orange has made us all shed tears.

We have disowned our blood when we learned that in secret Councils, in the presence of seven Governors, you have betrayed our Father's cause by agreeing with the English Evil Spirit to divest yourselves in his favor of the Beautiful river, notwithstanding the great length of time our Father has been in possession of it.

Brethren, Are you ignorant of the difference between our Father and the English? Go see the forts our Father has erected, and you will see that the land beneath his walls is still hunting ground, having fixed himself in those places we frequent, only to supply our wants; whilst the English, on the contrary, no sooner get possession of a country than the game is forced to leave it; the trees fall down before them, the earth becomes bare, and we find among them hardly wherewithal to shelter us when the night falls.

Brothers, Reflect on what we say to you by this Belt, and do not leave us long in ignorance of your mode of thinking of us, who regard as suspicious all sentiments which do not agree with our own and those of our Father.

The Iroquois cabin promised to come this spring to answer this Belt; it is supposed to be given unknown to their Father, in order that all the Iroquois may feel fully persuaded that it is not at his solicitation that our domiciliated Indians so speak.

Signature of the Marquis Duquesne.

Belt of the Oneidas in answer to one that the Missionaries of the Sault sent them, and which has been brought to the Mission by the Deputies from the Nation.

[Annexed to the Marquis Duquesne's letter of 31st 8ber, 1754.]

The Belt sent last spring was to this purpose:

1st The Onontagés, your neighbors, are dangerous; they seek to alarm you respecting our Father's conduct, accusing him of having formed the design of staining your and their mats with blood.

2nd Distrust the English, who propose to purchase your lands; they are seeking to spread themselves abroad, only in order to hem you in.

3rd Be careful not to shake the Tree of Peace which our Father, Mr de Calières, has so firmly planted.

4th In order to enjoy quietly the sweets of peace, which you will not taste except by participating in good works, try the religion professed by your brethren of the Sault; desire to be praying, and we shall go and instruct you.

The answer is:

1st We will be deaf to the words of the Onontagés as well as to those of all others, unless they accord with those of our Father.

2d The English will never obtain anything from us, nor even settle on our lands.

3d Far from shaking the Tree of Peace, we will ward off from it as much as we can, the blows of the hatchet that the evil disposed might direct against it.

4th In regard to prayer, this is the word of only one of our two villages, the other not having yet taken the matter into deliberation. This is what it says: Father, you will be the master of our minds to teach us to pray; we will listen to you wherever you will be, provided brandy, which disturbs the heads of our young men, does not know the path where your fire will be lighted; we envy the lot of those to whom the Master of Life sends people to instruct them; you have made us all glad by your good word, but assure us of the time when you will begin to take pity on us. These two strings of wampum thank you on behalf of the village, for the good tobacco you have sent us.

Signature of M. Duquesne.

In Council 2d Nov. 1754.

561.

His Excellency the Governour having caused to be communicated to the Board divers Extracts from the Minutes of the Commissioners for Indian affairs at Albany relative to a Conference had between them and the Cagnawaga & other Scaghticoke Indians: in which their proceedings of the 14 Aug.t last are wholly omitted although twice referd to viz. in the Minutes of the 15. & 24 of that month.

Therefore voted that his Excellency the Governour be requested to write again to his Honour the Lieut. Governour of New York desiring that he would be pleased to send a compleat Copy of the whole Conference with said Indians (as the Minutes now sent are unhappily found to be Extracts) and that his Honour would likewise be pleased to communicate what passed between the Cagnawaga Indians & the Mohawks; and between the said Commissioners & the Mohawks relating to a Neutrality.

And Joseph Lynch Esq with such as the Hon.ble House shall join are appointed a Committee to wait upon his Excellency & lay before him this Vote of both Houses.

Sent down for Concurrence
Tho.s Clap Cler. Dep.ty

In the House of Representatives Nov.r 2d 1754 Read & Concurred & Col Brattle & Col Sallonstall are joined.
T. Hubbard Spkr

FROM ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

A. L. S.[1]

Philadelphia 15th November 1754

SIR,

Mr Peters has communicated to me a Letter[2] which he has received from Mr Daniel Clause, wherein he informs him that Mr Lydius[3] of Albany has in a most unbecoming and fraudulent Manner obtained a Deed for the Lands on the River Sasquehannah in the very Centre of this Province from several Indians of the Senecas, Mohocks, Onondagoes, and Oneidoes in favour of some People of Connecticut; and that he is obliged to You for this kind Intelligence, which You desired might be imparted to this Government in all its Circumstances.

I would have done myself the Honour of acknowledging your Kindness, and of giving You my Sentiments on this untoward Affair, and desiring your Assistance before this Time; but I have had Two Assemblies on my Hands, and the Lower One obliged me to be at Newcastle a Fortnight. Now that I am at Liberty to give this Matter a full Consideration, and have consulted Mr Weiser thereupon and laid all before the Council, I can see no other Way than to get Hendrick the Mohock Chief, who I believe and hope does not countenance this vile Transaction, to take a Journey to this City, that I may lay before him the dangerous Effects of this dishonourable Sale, and consult with him by what means it can be defeated, and the Peace of the Inhabitants of this Colony preserved.

I have read with Pleasure the Letters that have passed between You and the late Governor Mr Hamilton,[4] as in them this Matter is set forth in its true Light, and You kindly offer

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[1] In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., Penn Papers, Official Correspondence, 6:235.

[2] Daniel Claus to Richard Peters; printed in *Susquehanna Papers*, 1:130–33.

[3] John Henry Lydius.

[4] James Hamilton, governor of Pennsylvania.

the Proprietaries and this Government your best Council and Assistance against this unjust Attempt; and by these as well as the Knowledge of your Goodness in other Respects, I am induced to give You this Trouble.

You are sensible that at the late Meeting of Commissioners at Albany, the Six Nations in open Council mentioned to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania an Application then making to them for the Sale of some of the Sasquehannah Lands by Agents from Connecticut, and that they had absolutely refused to give any Ear to such Proposal, telling the Commiss^rs they were determined those Lands should not be Settled, but reserved for a Place of Retreat to such as in this Time of War and Confusion between the French and English might be obliged to leave their present Habitations, and that there was no Part of their Lands that lay so convenient as Wyomink for a Number to live together; and therefore they earnestly desired that Pennsylvania would not insist on those Lands being comprehended within the Purchase then under Consideration. They repeated with Warmth, that neither the New England nor Pennsylvania People shoud settle them, and if either should attempt it, they would oppose them with Force.

And in order to shew to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, that the Reserve of these Lands was a very deliberate Act of their Council, they further declared, that in Council they had then thought proper to appoint John Shick Calamy, an Indian Chief of the Oneido Nation living in an Indian Town on those Lands as their Agent and Representative, giving him Orders to take Care of them, and desired he might be considered by Pennsylvania as their Agent; charging him, if he should find any White People attempting to settle those Lands, to make Complaint thereof immediately to the Government and to have them removed.

The Commissioners of Pennsylvania, after shewing the Indians that those Lands were in the Centre of their Province, conceded to the Indians Request that the Purchase should not

extend to them, but then they, the Indians, must be explicit about their Intentions with respect to any underhand Practices in favour of the Connecticut People.

The Commissioners likewise produced an Instrument under the Hands and Seals of the Chiefs of the Six Nations at a Treaty in October 1736, and proved the same to be their voluntary Act by One of the Chiefs who had executed it (in which Deed they had solemnly agreed to sell no Lands within the Limits of this Province to any other Persons than to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania) Whereupon the Chiefs of their own Accord, acknowledging that the Signers were well known to them to be the principal Men of their respective Nations, confirmed that Agreement and bound themselves by a fresh Deed to sell no Lands lying within the Limits of Pennsylvania to any but the Proprietaries; and all this was done in the most open and solemn Manner, and with Intent to put a Stop to the further Execution of the Connecticut Project.

Mr Peters when at Albany acquainted Mr Woodbridge of Stockbridge the Principal Agent of the Connecticut People, with this whole Transaction, and Likewise shewed him sundry Indian Deeds to the Proprietaries for those Lands; at which he was pleased to express much Satisfaction, and to say that Pennsylvania might depend upon having no further Trouble in this Affair.

Sir, I have mentioned these Particulars, because they will all serve to shew, that whenever the Six Nations in their publick Councill consider this Deed obtained by Lydius, they will deem it a Violation of publick Faith and an arrant Piece of Fraud; and will resent it not only as to Lydius, who they know to be a French Convert, but as to the People of Connecticut, and will not scruple to do them Mischief. The Shick Calamys and the Indians who live at Shamokin and on Sasquehannah are very numerous and daily encreasing; when they come to see the New England People settle these Lands, which they assuredly intend to do early in the Spring, will most certainly

oppose them, and so a War between the Indians and ye Kings Subjects will be brought into the very Bowels of this Province by this Connecticut Project, which is undertaken against fair Notice and a full Knowledge.

Now it is thought that if Hendrick can be prevailed on to come down, and should hear all these Matters laid properly before him, he would find out a method of laying the Whole before the Six Nations and Preventing the Settlement of these Lands. But then as Indians do not like to blame One another, should he be told before hand that this is the Business he is sent for he may decline coming. For this Reason it is thought better not to mention a Word of this Matter to Hendrick, but inasmuch as when he took his Leave of the Pennslyvania Commissioners he made this Government a Tender of his Services, and declared in a very solemn manner, that he woud at any time come to Philadelphia, whenever the Governor should think it necessary to send for him, to write him a general Letter founded on this promise, and to leave it to You to give him what Impressions You please of this Journey, and to persuade him to take it immediately.

The Letter is enclosed in one to Mr Clause, who had Directions to shew it to you and to consult with you how and when to deliver it and what to say to Hendrick. If he should deliver it as of himself to Hendrick, then He would probably come to consult You, and so you might with greater Advantage give your Advice. But if You think otherwise, and that is best for You to deliver it, this is left entirely to You.

I am with perfect Regard Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

The Honourable WILLIAM JOHNSON
at Mount Johnson

Philadelphia 15th November 1754.

Sir,

Mr Peters has communicated to me a Letter which he has received from Mr Daniel Claus, wherein he informs him that Mr Inglis of Albany has in a most unbecoming and fraudulent Manner obtained a Deed for the Lands on the River Susquehannah in the very Center of this Province from several Indians of the Senecas, Mohocks, Onondagoes and Oneidoes in favour of some People of Connecticut; and that he is obliged to you for this kind Intelligence, which you desired might be imparted to this Government in all its Circumstances.

I would have done myself the Honour of acknowledging your Kindness, and of giving you my sentiments on this untoward Affair and desiring your Assistance before this Time; but I have had Two Assemblies on my Hands, and the latter one obliged me to be at Newcastle a Fortnight. Now that I am at Liberty to give this matter a full Consideration, and have consulted Mr Peters thereupon and laid all before the Council, I can see no other Way than to get Hendrick the Mohock Chief, who I believe and hope does not countenance this vile Transaction, to take a Journey to this City, that I may lay before him the dangerous Effects of this dishonourable Sale, and consult with him by what means it can be defeated, and the Peace of the Inhabitants of this Colony preserved.

I have read with Pleasure the Letters that have passed between you and the late Governor Mr Hamilton, as in them this Matter is set forth in the true Light, and you kindly offer the Proprietaries and this Government your best Council and Assistance against this covetous Attempt: and by these as well as the Knowledge of your Goodness in other respects, I am induced to give you this Trouble.

You are sensible that at the late Treaty of Commissioners at Albany, the Six Nations in open Council mentioned to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania an Application to them then making for the Sale of some of the Susquehannah Lands by Agents from Connecticut, and that they had absolutely refused to give any Lands to such Buyers, telling the Commissrs they were determined these Lands should not be settled, but reserved for a Place of Retreat to such as in this Time of War and Confusion between the French and English might be obliged to leave their present Habitations; and that there was no Part of their Lands that lay so convenient as to furnish for a Number to live together; and therefore they earnestly desired that Pennsylvania would not treat for these Lands being comprehended within the Purchase then under Consideration. They repeated with Warmth, that neither the New England nor Pennsylvania People should settle them, and if either should attempt it they would oppose them with Force.

And

And in order to shew to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, that the Reserve of these Lands was a very deliberate Act of their Council, they further declared, that in Council they had then thought proper to assign John Thicklalamy, an Indian Chief of the Oneido Nation living in an Indian Town on these Lands as their Agent and Representative, giving him Orders to take Care of them, and desired he might be considered by Pennsylvania as their Agent; charging him, if he should find any White People attempting to settle those Lands, to make Complaint thereof immediately to the Government and to have them removed.

The Commissioners of Pennsylvania, after shewing the Indians that those Lands were in the Centre of their Province, conceded to the Indians Request that the Purchase should not extend to them, but then they the Indians, must be explicit about their Intentions with respect to any under-hand Practices in favour of the Connecticut People.

The Commissioners likewise produced an Instrument under the Hand and Seals of the Chiefs of the Six Nations at a Treaty in October 1736, and proved the same to be their voluntary Act by One of the Chiefs who had executed it [in which Deed they had solemnly agreed to sell no Lands within the Limits of this Province to any other Persons than to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania] whereupon the Chiefs of their own Accord, acknowledging that the Signers were well known to them to be the principal Men of their respective Nations, confirmed that Agreement and bound themselves by a fresh Deed to sell no Lands lying within the Limits of Pennsylvania to any but the Proprietaries: and all this was done in the most open and solemn Manner, and with Intent to put a Stop to the further Execution of the Connecticut Project.

Mr Peters when at Albany acquainted Mr Hardbridge of Stockbridge the Principal Agent of the Connecticut People with this whole Transaction, and likewise shewed him sundry Indian Deeds to the Proprietaries for those Lands; at which he was pleased to express much Satisfaction, and to say that Pennsylvania might depend upon having no further Trouble in this Affair.

Sir, I have mentioned these Particulars, because they will all serve to shew, that whenever the Six Nations in their publick Council consider this Deed obtained by Lydius, they will deem it a Violation of publick Faith and an arrant Piece of Fraud; and will resent it not only as to Lydius, who they know to be a French Convert, but as to the People of Connecticut, and will not scruple to do them Mischief. The Shicklalamy and the Indians who live at Shamokin and on Susquehannah are very numerous and daily encreasing; when they come to see the Six Nations a

People

People settle these Lands, which they assuredly intend to do early in the Spring, will most certainly oppose them, and so a War between the Indians & my Kings Subjects will be brought into the very Bowels of this Province by this Connecticut Project, which is undertaken against fair Notice and a full Knowledge.

Now it is thought that if Hendrick can be prevailed on to come down, and should hear all these Matters laid properly before him, he would find out a method of laying the whole before the Six Nations and preventing the Settlement of these Lands. But then as Indians do not like to blame one another, should he be told beforehand that this is the Business he is sent for he may decline coming. For this Reason it is thought better not to mention a Word of this Matter to Hendrick, but, inasmuch as when he took his Leave of the Pennsylvania Commissioners he made this Governor a Tender of his Services, and declared in a very solemn manner, that he would at any time come to Philadelphia, whenever the Governor should think it necessary to send for him, to write him a general Letter founded on this Promise, and to leave it to you to give him what Impressions you please of this Journey, and to persuade him to take it immediately.

The Letter is enclosed in one to Mr Claus, who has Directions to shew it to you and to consult with you how and when to deliver it and what to say to Hendrick. If he should deliver it as of himself to Hendrick then He would probably come to consult you, and so you might with greater Advantage give your Advice. But if you think otherwise, and that it is best for you to deliver it, this is left entirely to you.

I am with perfect Regard

Sir

Your most obedient

humble Servant

Robert Hunter Morris

The Honourable William Johnson Esquire at Mount Johnson.

Governor Morris's Letter to
Colo Johnson 15 Novr 1754.

Copy 1715

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex upon Delaware.

To the Indians of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese and Owendats lately come from Ohio and now at Aucquick.

Brethren,

Please to hearken to what I am going to say to you.

Here give a String of Wampum.

Brethren,

By this Belt of Wampum (the Belt to be held up) I make it known to you, that your Brother (was with the Approbation of the King of Great Britain) your Father has appointed me your Countryman Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, that is, to represent his Royal Person among the People of Pennsylvania and his Brethren the Indians of the Six United Nations and their Allies: and they desire You will keep the same Correspondence with me as if your Brother (was was here himself, and I assure You by this Belt, I shall on my Part make it my particular Business to keep the Road open between Us, and suffer no Obstacles or Obstructions, that may by Storms come across it, to remain there, and our Council Fire shall from Time to Time be kept burning in Philadelphia.

Here give a Belt.

Brethren,

The Proprietaries when I parted from them in London desired me to assure You of their hearty Regards for You; they had heard with Concern of your being disturbed by the French, and of their taking Possession of your Lands and building Forts upon them against your repeated Prohibitions. These French Proceedings have likewise been imparted to his Majesty, who was consulting with his Wise Men in what manner it would be best

to

to assist you, and I should have brought his Majesties Orders
me could I have been spared from the ~~[illegible]~~ Care of m
Government, but this requiring my immediate Presence I am
for Pennsylvania, having been told that the King's Orders
soon follow me, and I hear they are arrived in Virginia, an
will be communicated to You as soon as his Majesties Govern
have had Time to lay them before the Wise Men of their re
Governments, and shall have received their Advice and Concur

Brethren,

Be assured that the Inhabitants of this Government ar
fast Friends and will afford You Protection till some gener
Measures shall be concerted, of which You shall not fail t
the earliest Advice from me: and until You shall hear f
from me, Pray keep Yourselves quiet, nor regard any Appl
from the French or their Friends and Dependants.

Philadelphia
15th November 1754.

Robt. H Morris

Govr Morris's Message
to the Indians at Anticoke
acquainting his Appointment by
the Government.

Sent to the House 10th Decr
1754 with the Answer of
the Indians.

N3

At the Governors Friday the Seventh Day of August 1755.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

The Speech of his Excellency Major General William Shirley General and Commander in Chief of all his Majestys Forces in North America To the Sachems and Warriors of the Indians of the Six Nations.

Brethern

The Great King of England your Father having committed to me the Command of all his Forces rais'd & to be Rais'd upon the Continent of North America, and in a particular manner commanded me to protect your Country & the Lands which your Fore Fathers have conquered and are of Right your Territories against all Violence and attempts of the French our common Enemy, and to cultivate a Strict Friendship & Alliance Between him and you, I take the first opportunity of communicating this to You By Major General Johnson, Whom I have now Ordered To Visit you & take care of your Interest —

Brethern

Since I came to this Place I have heard much News which concern you as well as all the English and therefore do now send Genl. Johnson To you to Speak my Mind to You —

Brethern

Perhaps you think the Weather looks somewhat Cloudy The French are Proud & have for some time past been very insolent, more so than is fit for you & us to bear, they threaten more, But be not frighted, I am not so, they are but few, we are many, they are but a handful We We all take up the Hatchet against them, it behoves you Brethern To be Wise & to remain Stedfast to your Old Friends the English, The great King of England is determined not only to protect you as well as his Subjects in America but To chastize the French for their repeated Insolence

Brethern

The Governour of Pensilvania hath Inform'd me, That he has Sent a Message to you of great Importance by Scarrooyady & Andrew Andrew Montour, I hope you have heard them with Attention, & have Considered Well What they have said

Brethern. The Indians called The Delawares & Shawanese Who live in and Near Pensilvania have for a long time past lived in Friendship with the People of that Province, Maryland & Virginia

Those

Those People have always treated them as Friends & Brothers, & yet they h
without any Provocation & without giving any Notice taken up the Hatch
against them & Struck their Tomahawks in them whilst they lay asle
their Beds, not expecting any Harm from them, They have killed & Scalp
Numbers, They Burnt their Houses & Barns & have killed their Hors
Cattle

Brethern.

The People of Pensilvania were always a peaceable People
did not Love Warr, not because they were weak & not able to Fight
are Strong & have great Numbers of Men; This Behaviour of the Dela
& Shawenese Indians, hath made them resolve to fight & they will h
Revenge

Brethern

The Indians the Delawares & Shawenese always lived un
your Direction, They looked upon you as their Masters, and you
upon them as Women who wore Petticoats; They never dared to do an
of Importance without your Leave, for they knew if they dick you
Chastized them, Yet those People have now dared To make Warr up
Antient Friends.

Brethern

It behoves you to join heartily with the People of Pensilva
in punishing those Indians, for unless you do, we cant but thin
have given them Leave to do What they have done and if they ha
your Leave Yet it behoves you the more to punish them, If you d
They will dare look you in the Face, They will think themselves a
Men as you, and you will loose the Name of being their Masters

Brethern

I must again desire you will join in Chastizing those th
That you will Send some of your Warriors against them, That th
may know you are Still our Friends, That you are Men and that t
are but Women

Brethern of the Onondagaes & Cayuga's

When I saw some of your Chief Sachems & Warriors at Os
your Hearts & my Heart seemd to be one, you promis'd to be true
To the English, & To join with us against our Enemys the Feenecks, &
promised to do all in my power to protect you against the Fee
You desired I would build a Fort in your Country, which I will do, a
Soon as the Weather is fit for Men to Work, You also promis'd t
Some of your Sachems to meet me next Spring at Oswego

At the Governors Friday the Seventh Day of August 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Brethern of the Oneidas

Some of your Chief Sachems & Warriors met me in my way from
wego at the great Carrying Place, I desired them to tell me Weather your
tion would join heartily with us against the French, But they told me
y could not give any Answer, till they had Consulted the Rest of your
chems & Warriors; you desired me to Send you a number of Men to
ild you a Fort, Which I understood was to be for you & the Tuskarora's
nt you a number of men to build you a Fort, But I have heard that they
t away, Since Which I have sent more Men to you for that purpose,
d I hope they have almost finished it.

Brethern of the Mohawks

In my Return from Oswego I had not time to Stop at you
r Castle at Conajoharie, But I Sent my Secretary & some of my Officers
d, to Condole with you for the Loss of your Great Sachem Hendrick & Others
riors at Lake George and To Whipe away your Tears, & Enquire after yr
lth: I Visited your Lower Castle, Where your Chief Sachems & Warriors
e told me, That They and we were One That our Enemies were their
mies And that when the Hatchet was Lifted up against our head, it
s against their Head.

Brethern of the Six Nations

It is now your time to Resolve, Whether you will join heartily we
h the English against theirs and your Enemies. I told you before that
Great King of England is determined to Chastize the French and all
se Who join with them, & for that purpose I am now raising a Great
my to Go against them early in the Spring; If you join heartily with us the
rk will be Easy your Country will then remain in peace to you, and the
ighbouring Nations will know that you are still able to Conquer them

Sir

New York December 7th 1755

You already know I have the honour to be Appointed Comman
in Chief of all his Majestys Forces in North America with the sam
Power as the Late Major Gendral Braddock had the Command

Inclosed is the Eighth Article of his Majestys Instruction h
Concerning Indian Affairs which is a Copy of that & the only Ins
which General Braddock had, Relating to that Matter, You will
it Refers to some Appointment of You to the Service therein Men
Supposd to be made by his Majesty, Before General Braddock
England: If you have recieved such a Commission You will
in Pursuance of it, According to the Instructions You may
recieved with it, And such farther Instructions as I do now or
hereafter send You, In case you have recieved no such Comm
You will then Act in pursuance of the Commission which I sen
herewith By Virtue of the Power Given me, By his Majesty a
founded upon the Words & Intents of his Royal Instruction
Looking upon the Indians called there the Northern Indian
to be intended of those of the Six Nations, & Whatever Allys
may have to the Northward ——

Inclosed are Gendral Instructions for your Guidance an
directions in the Execution of your Trust, & some Calculated for
Occasion to which I refer You. & To the Inclosed Papers Conta
an Account of Gov. Morris's Intelligence & Proceedings Relati
to the Shawonese Delaware & Other Indians therein Mentioned
of his Messages to the Several Tribes of the Six Nations Which
Last Mentioned papers will throw Light upon the Service. I pro
now by Directing you to proceed to those Castles

You will Let me know by the return of this Express Whether
have recieved any Other Commission than that from the Late Ma
General Braddock Relative to the Case of the Indians & how
I may depend upon your Acting under the Inclosed Commissio
& proceeding on the Service. I now direct you to go upon, tha
in Case you shall decline I may Otherwise provide against
Majestys Service being Disappointed by that Means

If the Advanced Season of the Year or your State of Health
will not Suffer you to go as far as the Onondagos Castle yo

At the Governors on Friday the [illegible]th Day of August 1755.

Present

The Honble Lt Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

the Orders Taken

you will then Transact the Business by Proper Messages to Such of them as you cannot Personally Go to

As the Effectual Execution of the Trust Reposed in you will, on many Accounts, Require my having an Interview with you, as soon as the Business, I now direct you to do, will admitt, I must desire you to Let me See you at Boston this Winter some time Before the Month of March at furthest

I am Sir Your Most Obt Servt W. Shirley.

Major General Johnson.

The Speech of Governor Morris to the Indians at Aughwick, 1754.

Brethren of the six united nations, You in particular, who Came from Ohio, and have put yourselves under the protection of the Government of Pensilvania, give Ear to what I am going to say to you. [Here give a streng of wampum, and proceed as follows.] Please to harken to what I am going to say to you.

Brethren, by this Belt of Wampum, (the belt to be held up,) I make it known to you, that your Brother Onas, with the approbation of the King of great Britain, your father, has appointed me your Countryman, Governor of the province of Pensilvania, that is, to represent his Royal person among the people of Pensilvania, and his Brethren, the Indians of the six united nations, and their allies; and they desire you will keep the same Corespondence with me, as If your Brother Onas was here himself, and I assure you by this Belt, I shall, on my part, make it my particular Business, to keep the road open between us, and suffer no obstacles or obstructions that may by Storms Come across it, to remain there, and our Counsel fire shall from time to time, be kept Burning in Philad[a]; [here give a Belt.]

Brethren, according to the promise that my predecessor, the Governor of Pens[a] made you, some days ago, I make known to you, that our father the King of great Britain, upon hearing of the invasion of the French on your lands, sent to the King of French, to let him know of their Breach of the peace, and to require of him, the reason of his Childrens so doing, and whether it was by his order, but before the answer came backe from france, I was oblidged to go on bord the ship to take the Care of the Government of Pensilvania upon me; in the mean time, I can assure you, that after the King of Great Britain has tried all the fair means to remove the French from the new fords they Build on Ohio, and the French remain obstinate, he will take them by the arm, and fling them a Cross the lake of Cataroghky, to the place where they came from, and protect his Indian Children, and more to, If they desire it of him in a suitable way; [here give a Belt.]

Brethren, Since my arrival in this town, I hear that one of his Majestys ships is come over, and brought orders to your Brother, Tocarryhogon, the Governor of Maryland, Concerning Ohio affair; as your Brother Tocarryhogon lives between us & Virginia, it is very like, that the King of Great Britain, has made him the Chief Comander against the French on Ohio, and If so, you will soon hear the particulars by a message from him, of which I desire you will take notice, as a word from our father, the King of Great Britain; here give another Belt.

Brethren, I have at present, no more to say to you.

Sir:

I have here, in the foregoing lines, put down what I thought would be necessary to be said by his Honour, the Governor, to the Indians at Aughwick, (or at least some heads of It). I submit it to your better Judgment, who am, Sir, your obedient,

C. WEISER.

[The following portions appear to have been written by the Gov'r or Sec'y.]

Brethren:

The Proprietaries, when I parted from them in London, desired me to assure you, of their hearty Regards for You; they had heard with Concern, of your being disturbed by ye French, and of their taking Possession of your Lands, and building Forts upon them, against your repeated Prohibitions; these French Proceedings, have likewise been imparted to his majesty, who was consulting with his Wise Men, in what manner it would be best to assist you, and I should have brought his majesties orders with me, coud I have been spared from the Care of my Government; but this, requiring my imediate Presence, I embarke for Pennsylvania, having been told, that the King's orders should soon follow me, and I hear they are arrived in Virginia, and will be communicated to you, as soon as his majesties Governors have had time to lay them before the wise men of their respective Governments, and he shall have received their advice and Concurrence.

Brethren:

Be assured that the Inhabitants of this Government are your fast Friends, and will afford you Protection now, since general measures shall be concerted, of which you shall not fail to have the earliest advice from me, and untill you shall hear further from me, pray keep yourselves quiet, nor regard any applications from the French, or their Friends and Dependants.

Indorsed.—Message to the Indians at Auckguick. Read in Council, 15 Nov^r^., 1754.*

* See Weiser's Journal, Col. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 150. The foregoing appears to be a sketch of a Speech, prepared by C. Weiser, in whose handwriting it is,—"Read in Council, Nov. 15."

No 12

Pensilvania Nov 20. 1734

Mr

Sr. Mr. Hamilton my Predecessor having
sent you & Mr. Wolcot the Late Govr
of Connecticut relating to a Solemn
Jorney & engagement for purchasing from the Indians and
Selling some Lands upon the Susquehanah
without the Limits of this Government to the
King Crown to be sent you
within Six Months, there being Letters
to that Effect & to lay before you some Matters
from whence you may Judge of the nature
& Circumstances of that Grant & you will therefore
please to be informed that about the
year 1690 the Indians then of the Six
United Nations & Dead Regularly
Executed Conveyed to Coll Thomas Dongan
Governor of New York & Large Parcell &
Land upon the River Susquehanah
& great part of which is within
the Limits of this Province, and
that Coll Dongan afterwards by Deed
to the Late Sr James Duke
To Govr Belcher

Conveyed

Those Lands upon the Waters of Susquehanah
I would give you the particular Dates of
those deeds but am now at a Distance
from Philadelphia where they are
and have not
with me. These Instruments have been
frequently Produced to the three Surveyors
of Indians Land this alleys the Susquehanah Indians
are Recited in many of their Subsequent
Deeds and have been publickly
Acknowledged ratified and Confirmed at Treaties
between them & this government
and the the force and Effect of
those Deeds have always been understood
as well by the Indians as the English to
Vest in the Proprietors of Pensilvania
all the Lands upon the Several Branches
of Susquehanah, yet they the Propr^s have upon many
Occasions by treaty Solemnly Engaged
not to take possession of those Lands
or Suffer them to be Settled without
Making the Indians a particular
Satisfaction for such parts of that County
as they Should be agreed from time
to time to give up
and for that Reason all
Subsequent deeds have been Considered
only

Only as Confirmations so far as they
Related to the Lands upon the Waters
of Susquehanah, but as those Lands
are but a part of the Province of

Only as Confirmations so far as they re-
lated to the Lands upon the Waters
of Susquehannah, Lakes those Lands
are but a part of the province of
Pensilvania. The six United Nations
at a Treaty held ~~with this Government~~ in
Oct.r 1736 did Solemnly Covenant and
Engage by Instrument under the Hands
and Seals of the Chiefs of the respective
Nations, to sell all the Lands within
the Limits of Pensilvania to the
Proprietarys of this province &
no other person whatsoever. This
Instrument was produced to the Six
Nations at the Late General Treaty
at Albany, by the Commissioners from
this Government, and proved ~~to be~~
~~their Voluntary Act and Deed before~~ &
by one of
the Chiefs who was then present &
Clearly thereto
Whereupon the six Nations in ~~Publick~~
Publick Council Declared that the
Signers of that Instrument were well

(3) Whereon

Indians to them to have been the
principall men and Chiefs of their Several
nations; and they did then Solemnly
Ratifie that agreement, and by a Deed
Deed not only Confirmed the Several
Sales they had therefore made to the
Proprietarys, but Voluntarily bound
themselves to Sell no Land within the
Limits of Pensilvania to any person
whatsoever but to the Proprietarys only.

You will give me Leave further
to Observe to you that the Six nations at
the said Late congress at Albany in Open
Council mentioned an Application then
made to them by agents from Connecticut
for the purchase of some of the Susquehanah
Lands, and that they had Absolutely Refused
to give any Ear to such Proposal Telling
the several Governments then present by their
Commissioners, that they were determined
the Lands at a place Called Oyonwike on the
Susquehanah should not be settled but
reserved for a Place of Retreat for such of
their People as in the time of Confusion
Between the French and English

be obliged to Leave their habitations and
for that Reason earnestly desired that
Pensilvania would not insist on those Lands
being Comprehended within the purchase
then under Consideration and roundly
Declard that if any white People Attempted
to settle there they would Oppose them
with force. And to show that the Reserv-
of the Lands at Wyoming was a deliberate
act of their Council they further Declared
that they had Appointed John Nicholas Camy
an Indian Chief of the Oneida Nation living
in a town on those Lands as their Agent and
Representative and had Given him Orders
to take care of them and Charged him
not to Suffer any white People whatever
to Settle them: — And also desired the
Goverment of Pensilvania would Consider
him as their Agent, and upon his
Application Assist in removing any persons
that Should take Possession of those Lands.
Upon this the Commissioners of Pensilvania
having Shewed the Indians that the Lands
at Wyoming were within the Limits of their
Province Conceded to the Indians Request
and

and on behalf of this province Engaged
that those Lands should not be settled by
any white people whatever. Under these
Several matters having been
transacted at the Late
Congress at Albany in the most open and
Solemn manner and Known not only to the
Commissioners from the several Governments
but to Mr Woodbridge one of the Connecticut
agents employd to make the purchase of
the Indians, ——— I can make no Doubt
but they have been fully Laid before you and
were Publickly known in your Province. —
Notwithstanding which, I am Informed That
Mr. John Lidias who is known to be a Roman
Catholick and in the French Interest has been
employd by some people of your province
to purchase from the Indians some Lands
within this Government and that he has in
a Clandestine manner by Very unfair means
prevailed on some few Indians to whom he
Secretly Applyed to sign a Deed for a
Considerable part of the Lands of this ———
province Including those at Loyonokh —
aforesaid: and that a number of your People —
Interested in that pretended purchase have
been in this province Laid Claim to those

and that a great Number of them those Lands & Offend them to sale —
are now preparing to leave your
Province & seat themselves upon
those Lands

You must be sensible Sir how
ready the Indians who cannot resist the
Temptation of strong Liquor are liable to
be imposed on by such Clandestine
Purchases, made without the knowledge
or Consent of any Government, by Private
men for Private purposes, of the
Governments and how frequently the
Indians themselves at their Publick
Treatys have complained of this manner
of Surprizeing them into the Execution
of Deeds, and it cannot be Doubted
but the six Nations in their Great Council
will Esteem this pretended purchase
fraudulent Imposition upon some of
of their People, & not in the least Binding upon them
as being Contrary to their Repeated
most Solomn and Repeated Engagements
by Deeds and Treatys to this Government

I must further Observe to you that
Since the French have taken Possession of
the Lands upon the River Ohio the Indians
of the six Nations that Resided there have
removed to the Branches of Susquehanah to

(7)

the -

the number of three Hundred and fifty men
and are now maintained at the Expence of this
Province and should those Indians be
over powerd and drove from thence the six
Nations may so highly resent such a
treatment that it may occasion their
total Defection at this Juncture when their
friendship is of the Greatest Importance
to the English Interest —

I shall be ~~Unhappy~~ sorry if
your people persist in the prosecution of
this their wild Scheme as I am apprehensive
it will bring on an Indian warr in the
Bowells of this province and be attended
with other very fatal consequences at a
time when his Majestys Service and the
Interest of these Colonys require the Strictest
Union between the Several Governments and
a firm friendship with the Indians in their
Alliance —

The Proprietarys and Government
of Pensilvania have ever treated the Indians
with the Highest Justice and have most
Religiously Observed and fulfilld the
Several Treatys that have been made
with them and those treatys sufficiently
Shew the great Care that has been taken

To come in below abo #

to give them such an Assembled in Publick
Council a full and free & repeated Satisfaction
for their Lands and this is a Justice they have
at all times and upon all Occasions
Acknowledged to have Received from this
Government And now we stand Engaged to
the six Nations by Treaty not to settle their
Lands at Wyoming nor Suffer them to be Settled
This government thought it proper after
receiving the Letters from Mr Wolcot and yours
to Notifie to the said John Steele Calamy and
Each of the six Nations as lies upon the
Susquehanah that there was Occasion to
Suspect and some white People from Gover-
Pennsylvania would Attempt to Seat themselves
there and at the same time to inform them
that those People were not Authorized or
Countenanced by this Government and
their Attempts were Disavowed by the
Government of Connecticut and for that
were to be Looked upon as
a Lawless set of People acting of their own
heads and for whose Conduct no Government
was answerable Upon this Notification
they have Signified their Resolution to
Still the Cattle of such white People as should

~~Shall~~ should Attempt to settle that Country and if after that they Persist in their Settlement that they will then treat them as Enemys and Destroy them all. —

I am sure I need not Observe how well Acquainted with the Laws of England you are Known you to be, that the Soil and Govn^t of this province being Legally Vested in the present Proprietarys under the Royal Charter to the Late ~~Proprietor~~ William Penn Esqr no person whatever has any Right to Purchase Lands of the Indians within the Limits of that Charter without a Licence first Obtained from them or their Governor for that Purpose; nor can no Lands within the same can be held by Subjects of Britain but under their Title. The steps therefore taken by the People of your Province appear to me to be not only a high Invasion of the Rights of Government but to Strike at the Foundation of all property in Lands in this Country and tending to Introduce the Greatest Disputes and Confusions among his Majesties Subjects. —

See above — ✻ This Subject has carryd me to a Greater Length than I Expected but I could not Avoid Laying those Several Matters before you which when you have

have considered I am persuaded you will see the scheme of those rash people in the Light I do, and contribute your endeavours to prevent the measures that seem at present to threaten the Publick tranquility —

I am satisfied you do me the Justice to think that an Attempt so detrimental to the Peace of the Province I have the Honour to preside Over will meet with all the Opposition in my Power and I believe you Judge with me that a sett of People who quit their Own Peaceable habitations with premeditated Design to Invade the property and Disturb the Quiet of their Neighbours are entitled to very little Clemency —

I have only to Request the Continuance of your good Offices in influencing the People of your Province to lay aside their rash Schemes. ~~to Communicate the Answer to Armstrong to your Notice and to assure you that I am~~ and embrace the offer of a Legal settlement made in Mr Hamilton's Letter to Mr Wolcot which I have power & and Inclination to carry into execution upon very Reasonable terms. I recomend the bearer Mr Armstrong to your notice & beg assure you that I am &c.

(11)

Bill of Let^rs to & from Govr of
Connecticut upon some of
the People of that Province
Purchasing Lands of & Indians
within this govern^m and intentions
to settle them Dated Novr 20. 1754

Sent by Jno Armstrong express.
Nov. 20. 1754.

No 9

Entered

Copy 1 Pennsylvania. Novem^r 20th 1754

Sir

Mr Hamilton my Predecessor having wrote fully to You and Mr Wolcot the late Governor of Connecticut, relating to a Scheme formed in your Province for purchasing from the Indians and settling some Lands upon the River Susquehannah without the Leave of this Government, tho within its Bounds, I beg leave to refer You to that Letter, and to lay before You some other Matters from whence You may judge of the Nature and Consequences of that Attempt. You will therefore please to be informed, That about the Year 1696, the Indians then of the Five United Nations by Deed Regularly executed conveyed to Coll. Thomas Dongan Governor of New York, a large Parcel of Land, great Part of which lay upon the River Susquehannah and within the Limits of this Province, and that Col. Dungan afterwards by Deed conveyed to the late Proprietor William Penn all those Lands lying upon the Waters of Susquehannah within the Province aforesaid. I would give You the particular Dates of these Deeds but am now at a Distance from Philadelphia where they are. These Instruments have been frequently produced to the now Six United Nations of Indians and their Allies the Susquehannahs, are recited in many of their subsequent Deeds and have been publickly acknowledged, ratified and confirmed at several Treaties between them and this Government. And tho the Force and Effect of those Deeds has always been understood as well by the Indians as the English to vest in the Proprietors of Pennsylvania all the Lands upon the several Branches of Susquehannah, yet they, the Proprietors have upon many Occasions by Treaty solemnly engaged not to take Possession of those Lands, or suffer them to be settled without making the Indians a particular Satisfaction for such Parts of that Country as they should from Time to Time agree to give up; and for that Reason all subsequent Deeds have been considered only as Confirmations so far as they related to the Lands upon the Waters of Susquehannah, but as those Lands are but a Part of the Province of Pennsylvania, the Six United Nations at a Treaty held

held in October 1736 did solemnly covenant and engage by Instrument under the Hands and Seals of the Chiefs of the respective Nations, to sell all the Lands within the Limits of Pennsylvania to the Proprietaries of this Province, and to no other Person whatsoever. This Instrument was produced to the Six Nations at the late General Treaty at Albany, by the Commissioners from this Government, and proved by One of the Chiefs who was then present and a Party thereto. Whereupon the Six Nations in Publick Council declared, that the Signers of that Instrument were well known to them to have been the Principal Men and Chiefs of their several Nations; and they did then solemnly ratify that Agreement, and by a new Deed not only confirmed the several Sales they had theretofore made to the Proprietaries, but voluntarily bound themselves to sell no Land within the Limits of Pennsylvania to any Person whatsoever but to the Proprietors only.

You will give me Leave further to observe to You, that the Six Nations at the said late Congress at Albany in Open Council mentioned an Application then made to them by Agents from Connecticut for the Purchase of some of the Sasquehannah Lands, and that they had absolutely refused to give any Ear to such Proposal, telling the several Governments, then present by their Commissioners, that they were determined the Lands at a Place called Wyominh on the Sasquehannah should not be settled but reserved for a Place of Retreat for such of their People as in this Time of Confusion between the French and English might be oblig'd to leave their Habitations, and for that Reason earnestly desired that Pennsylvania would not insist on those Lands being comprehended within the Agreement then under Consideration, and warmly declared, that if any White People attempted to settle there, they would oppose them with Force. And to shew that the Reserve of the Lands at Wyominh was a deliberate Act of their Council, they further declared that they had appointed John Shickallamy an Indian Chief of the Oneido Nation living in a Town on those Lands as their Agent and Representative, and

had

had given him Orders to take care of them and charged him not to suffer any White People whatever to settle them. — And also desired the Government of Pennsylvania would consider him as their Agent, and upon his Application assist in removing any Persons that should take Possession of those Lands. Upon this the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, having shewed to the Indians that the Lands at Wyoming were near the Centre of this Province, conceded to the Indians Request, and on Behalf of this Province engaged that those Lands should not be settled by any White People whatever. These several Matters having been transacted at the late Congress at Albany in the most open and solemn Manner, and known not only to the Commissioners from the several Governments but to Mr. Woolbridge One of the Connecticut Agents employd to make the Purchase of the Indians — I can make no doubt but they have been fully laid before You, and were publickly known in your Province; notwithstanding which, I am informd that Mr. John Lydius, who is known to be a Roman Catholick and in the French Interest has been since employed by some People of your Province to purchase from the Indians some Lands within this Government, that he has in a clandestine Manner by very unfair Means prevailed on some few Indians to whom he secretly applyed to sign a Deed for a considerable Part of the Lands of this Province including those at Wyoming aforesaid: that a Number of your People interested in that pretended Purchase have been in this Province, laid Claim to those Lands and offered them to Sale, and that a greater Number of them are now preparing to leave your Province and seat themselves upon those Lands.

You must be sensible, Sir, how much the Indians, who cannot resist the Temptation of strong Liquor, are liable to be imposed on by such clandestine Purchases, made without the Knowledge or Consent of any Government by private Men for private Purposes, and how frequently the Indians themselves at their publick Treaties have complained of this Manner of surprizing them into the Execution of Deeds, and it cannot be doubted but the Six

Nations

Nations in their Great Council will esteem this pretended Purchase a fraudulent Imposition upon some few of their People, and not in the least binding upon them, being contrary to their most solemn and repeated Engagements by Deeds and Treaties to this Government.

I must further observe to you, that since the French have taken Possession of the Lands upon the River Ohio, the Indians of the Six Nations that resided there have removed to the Branches of Susquehannah to the Number of Three Hundred and upwards, and are now maintained at the Expence of this Province, and should those Indians be overpowered and drove from thence, the Six Nations may so highly resent such a Treatment, that it may occasion their total Defection at this Juncture when their Friendship is of the greatest Importance to the English Interest.

The Proprietaries and Government of Pennsylvania have ever treated the Indians with the highest Justice, and have most religiously observed and fulfilled the several Treaties that have been made with them; and those Treaties sufficiently shew the great Care that has been taken to give them (when assembled in Publick Council) a full and often a repeated Satisfaction for their Lands, and this is a Justice they have at all Times and upon all Occasions acknowledged to have received from this Government: and as we stand engaged to the Six Nations by Treaty, neither to settle the Lands at Wyoming nor suffer them to be settled, this Govern[t] thought it proper after receiving the Letters from Mr Wolcot and Yourself to notify to the said John Shickallamy and such of the Six Nations as live upon the Susquehannah, that there was Reason to apprehend some White People from your Province would attempt to seat themselves there, and at the same time to inform them, that those People were not authorized or even countenanced by this Government, and their Attempts were disavowed by the Government of Connecticut, and were to be looked upon as a lawless Set of People, acting of their own heads, and for whose Conduct no Government was answerable. Upon this Notification they have signified their Resolution first to kill the Cattle of such White People as should

attempt

attempt to settle that Country, and if after that they persisted in their Settlement, that they would then treat them as Enemies and destroy them all.

I am sure I need not observe to one so well acquainted with the Laws of England as I know You to be, that the Soil and Government of this Province being legally vested in the present Proprietaries under the Royal Charter to the late William Penn Esquire; no Person whatever has any Right to purchase Lands of the Indians within the Limits of that Charter without a Lycence first obtained from them or their Governor for that Purpose, nor, that no Lands within the same can be held by Subjects of Britain but under their Title; the Steps therefore taken by the People of your Province appear to me to be not only a high Invasion of the Rights of Government but to strike at the very Foundation of all Property in Lands in this Country, and tends to introduce the greatest Disputes and Confusions among his Majesties Subjects.

I shall be therefore very sorry if your People persist in the Prosecution of this their wild Scheme, as I am apprehensive it will bring on an Indian War in the Bowels of this Province and be attended with other very fatal Consequences at a Time when his Majesties Service and the Interest of the Colonies require the strictest Union between the several Governments and a firm Friendship with the Indians in their Alliance.

This Subject has carried me to a greater Length than I expected, but I could not avoid laying these several Matters before You, which when You have considered I am persuaded You will see the Scheme of these rash People in the Light I do, and contribute your Endeavours to prevent the Measures that seem at present to threaten the Publick Tranquility.

I am satisfied You do me the Justice to think that an Attempt so detrimental to the Peace of the Province I have the Honour to preside over will meet with all the Opposition in my Power; and I believe You judge with me, that a Set of People who quit their own peaceable Habitations with a premeditated Design to invade the Property and disturb the Quiet of their Neighbours are entitled to very little Clemency.

I

Vol. 6 page 827.

I have only to request the Continuance of your good Offi
in influencing the People of your Province to lay aside their ru
Scheme, and embrace the Offer of a legal Settlement made in. M
Hamilton's Letter to Governor Wolcot, which I have Power a
Inclination to carry into Execution upon very reasonable Term
to recommend the Bearer Mr Armstrong to your Notice and
assure You that I am

Sir

Your very humble Servant

Robt H Morris

To Governor Fitch.

Norwalk 29th November 1754.

Sir.

Your favour of the 20th Instant by Mr Armstrong I received Yesterday and should be glad it were in my Power to do more service than I am at present able to afford to prevent the Ill Consequences you have so well pointed out as proceeding from the Purchase of those Lands on Susquahannah in the Manner in which some People of this Colony have presumed to Act. I am very sensible that to take any Steps to disaffect the Indians in our Alliance or to raise Contests between the Governments at this Critical Conjuncture must be prejudicial to his Majesty's Interest and greatly Detrimental to the Safety and Peace of these Governments; and therefore ought to be opposed by all. I presume my self Sir that you believe I shall use what Influence and Interest I can against such Proceedings. Indeed I must confess my self to be unacquainted with the Scheme proposed by those Persons, and know but very little about the Steps they have taken as they never made any application to the Government about the matter, and who the Persons concerned be or where they are I know not, but only in general I have been informed some live in this Government and I suppose the greatest Number some in England, some in New York the Jersey and else where when Govr Wolcott made Publick Govr Hamilton's Letter about this affair I imagined it would have discouraged the further proceedings in that matter but by what I have heard it had not in general that Effect, however I know of no better way with us at present than to represent the State of the case in some Publick manner by which all Persons concerned may see the Consequences of such a Proceedure; and it will be needless for me to think what may be proper to be done in your Government in such case: I shall therefore lay this matter before our Assembly for their Consideration: and shall as I have opportunity Endeavour as far as lies in my Power to know the Issue attending such transactions: if any thing worthy of Notice occurs shall further advise you: in the mean time

Remain Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Thos Fitch

The Honble Govr Morris.

Geo. Croghan to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Dec^br. 2^d. 1754.

May itt Plese y^r honour,

I wrote you all ye News I had from ye Ohio Leatly by my Man, whome I Sent dowa Express, in that I acquainted y^r honour that I intended to Leave this pleace for this Reson, that all the Promisess Made those Indians or any Expectations they have of this governments Doing any thing for them, they allways Expect to be fullfill^d by Me, and as itt is nott in my Power to Do any thing for them, I think itt proper one of y^r Interpreters should be Sent hear to take Care of them, they Imagin I have Received orders from y^r honour to Suply them with Such things as they want, and begins to think I intend to Cheet them outt of their Rites or what they Imagin I had orders to give them; on ye other hand, I make no Doubt butt ye Government thinks I Run them to an Extravigint Expence as itt is Realy a hevy Expence to the Government; to acquitt My Self from Reflections on boath Sides, I should be glad some other person wold be apointed to provide for them who phaps May Do itt Beter then I Can, itt is nott because I Neaver have bean paid any thing for my truble, butt to avoide Senour tho' I aShure y^r honour I Neaver Received a farthing for my own time & truble Spent on those ocations in My Life from ye Government, itt is true they allways paid me fer ye Services of My horses, butt Neaver Considered Me one farthing for My Truble, tho' I Remember Last Winter when John Paten was Sent out to Ohio with a Letter, the government aLowed him £50, I was Sent out att ye same time, and was outt three Months, butt Neaver had ye Least acknolidgement made me, I Dont Menshon this to y^r honour by way of Expecting any pay fer My Truble, fer Should itt be thought of any Service to ye publick My staying hear att this Critecall Juntuer, I will obay y^r honours orders with Plesher, and aSist any Person y^r honour will Send hear.

I think att this time itt is my Duty to acquaint y^r honour what I know of ye Indians Sentiments, and what they Expect of this government, which is as folows, the Ohio Indians in Ginrele putts thire hole Depenance on this government in Regarde to ye Expedition as Soon as this government Moves, they will unite all thire force and attack ye French, Butt I Blive Nott till then, and they Expect ye Government will Suply them hear with Provisions till Spring, and Cloathing for there famelys till they See what will be Don, ye Dalaways & Shannas are all study frends and I Blive will Remain so notwithstanding ye many afferts made on them by ye French, butt I think they should be Sent fer to Come on this Side ye Aleganie Mountain, if the Government Should think proper to Suport those Indians and Do itt in a ginrous Maner, I think all the Ohio Indians May be Retain^d in ye British Intrest, Butt if nott Don

Speedely and with Sprett I think itt is better give them up without any further Expence, those people Expects a Small Stokeado fortt Made fer ye Securety of thire Wifes & Children, as they are afread of ye French Indians Coming to attack them, this is all I know of thire Sentiments or Expections att present, Butt I will Write y^r^ honour all ye News I Can hear worth y^r^ honours Notice from time to time, the Shannas that was hear and Went to Verginia is yet within 50 Miles of this, & I b'live will Continue there till spring.

I am y^r^ honours most humble
and most obeident humble
Servant,
GEO. CROGHAN.

Indorsed.—"A Letter from George Croghan, to Gov. Morris, Dated Dec. 2, 1754, Laid before the House, Dec. 9, 1754."

GEO. CROGHAN TO GOV. MORRIS, 1754.

Aughick old Town, Decr 2d, 1754.

May itt Plese yor Honour:

Yesterday I was favored with y^r^ honour's Leter and Instructions to ye Indians hear, all which I deliver'd this Morning in ye Presents of y^r^ honour's Mesengar, and Likewise Deliver'd a Small present in y^r^ honour's Name to Condole with them on ye Death of the half king, and to Wipe ye Tears from thire Eyes to ye a mount of £20. 10, which I hope will be agreeable to y^r^ honour; y^r^ honour's Speech was very kind Ly Received by ye Indians, and they Return thire father, ye king of Great Bretan, and his honour ye Proprietor, thire hearty thanks for apointing a Gentelman bread in ye Same Land with them to have ye Care of them, and a Shures y^r^ honour they will be Directed by you in Every thing that may Contrubett to keep up a good understanding between you and them, and Desiers thire Compliments may be made to his honour, Governor Hamilton, thire Brother, and thankes him for ye care he took of them Dureing his Administeration in this Government; hear they gave a String of Wompum.

I am y^r^ honour's most
humble and most
obedient Servant.
GEO. CROGHAN.

Indorsed.—Laid before the House Decr 9, 1754.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 188.

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Pennsylvania 1754—

the Physicians who Visit them in such a manner that it is impossible to discover it from any thing they can see on board.

There have been Diseases of the same nature with these mentioned at other times in the City, but we do not know any thing relating to them, that would make their Enumeration necessary; therefore shall conclude with only taking the Liberty to assure you we are.

Sir

your most Obedient

Humble Servts

Tho: Greene

Thomas Bond.

Decemr. 2d 1754.

The Council for their further Information sent for Jacob Shoemaker the Man who has the care of the Strangers Burying ground and ordered him to deliver in upon oath the Number of Palatines buried there which he did as followes.

An Account of the Palatines buried this Years.

For Alexander Stedman	62
For Henry Keppelly	39
For Benjamin Shoemaker	57
For Daniel Benezet	7
For Michael Hillegass	8
	263

Jacob Shoemaker, upon his Affirmation saith the above Account of Burials since the 14th September last is Exact and true from his Book and the Acct. of Coffins Except those from Michael Hillegass which he thinks may be 6 or 8 more. & some to be Buried this Day. Novemr. 14th 1754.

Affirmed before me.

Chas. Willing—

Jacob Shoemaker.

At a Council held at Philadelphia in the State House 3 Decemr. 1754.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor

John Penn, Robert Strettell, Joseph Turner, Richard Peters } Esquires

Two Members waited upon the Governor and acquainted him that the House were met according to their Adjournment and desired to know if he had any thing to lay before them and he told them that he should be at the Council Chamber at Eleven a Clock this Morning and would then send a Message to require their attendance

The Secretary in Pursuance of an Order under the Hand of the Speaker prepared a Writ to the Sheriff of the County of Philadelphia for electing a New Member to serve in Assembly for that County in the room of Edward Warner deceased and the Governor signed it, ordered the Lesser Seal to be put to it and the Secretary to counter sign it.

The Governor laid before the Council several Letters which were read, considered and ordered to be entered Viz: A Letter from Sr. Thomas Robinson dated 5th July last a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie dated 8th November last. A Letter from Governor Sharpe informing him that the King had given him the Commands of the Troops to to be raised against the French dated likewise on the 8th November— Two Letters from George Croghan one of the 16th of October, and another of the 25th. November— Two

Letters

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Letters from Daniel Clause one to Mr Hamilton and another to Mr Peters dated the 29th of October last, a Letter from John Harris of Paxtang Dated the 29th of October giving an Account of the Half Kings Death.

Letter from Sr Thomas Robinson

Sir.

Whitehall July 3d 1754

Your Letter of the twenty fifth of November last, in Answer to the Earl of Holdernesse of the twenty eighth of August, having been received and laid before the King, I am to acquaint you, that it is his Majesty's express command, that you should, in Obedience thereto, not only Act Vigorously in the Defence of the Government under your Care, but that you should likewise be aiding and assisting his Majestes other American Colonies, to repel any hostile Attempts made against them, and it was with great surprize, that the King observed your total silence upon that part of His Majesty's Orders, which relate to a concert with other Colonies, which you must be sensible is now become more essentially necessary for their common Defence, since the Account received by you from Major Washington, with regard to the Hostilities committed by the French upon the River Ohio, which verify, in Fact, what was apprehended when the Earl of Holdernesse Wrote so fully to you in August last, and which might have been, in great Measure, if not totally, prevented, had every one of his Majesties Governments exerted themselves according to those directions, the observance whereof, I am now, by the Kings Command, to enforce you in the Strongest manner. I am

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servt

Thomas Robinson.

Letter from Governor Dinwiddie

Sir. Williamsburg November 8th 1754

I have the Pleasure of Your Letter of the 12th October last and Itake this opportunity of congratulating you on your safe Arrival at your Government, and Isincerely wish You health, and all the Blessings due to a good Governor.

Our Assembly met last Month, and after strong Solicitations and Arguments they have voted 20,000 to enable me to conduct the necessary Expedition. His Majesty was also graciously pleased to send me 10,000 in Specie, and appointed Mr Sharps to Command in Chief the combined Forces against the French on the Ohio; He has been here and consulted measures for the operations either this Winter or early in the Spring; which he will be Judge off when he gets to the camps, where I presume he will soon be there.

I am, in Consequence of above Supplies, raising of Levies to send to Wills's Creek with all Expedition: but I must observe, the above Supplies will come far short in Answering the End, in driving the French from the Ohio as I think not less than 250 Men can be employed to do the Business Essentially. It gave me much surprize to see in Your Papers that Your Assembly is adjourned till the Second of next Month, without granting any Assistance; I am sorry they should have desired it when the Enemy is so near our Frontiers: and if Supplies were now granted the time is short enough to make proper Preparations, even if the Expedition be retarded to the Spring.

Pray, Sir, endeavour to rouse them from their Lethergic, Supineness, to their Duty to the best of Kings, and to their own preservation; my Eyes have been Strongly fixed on Your Province for a considerable Aid and am still in Hopes that I shall not be disappointed.

A Colony of Your Riches, and great Number of Inhabitants to remain unactive in so imminent danger, Surprizes me, and must all well wishers to these Colonies.

Though

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Though they may plead some religious Tenets for their Cause; yet as there are great Numbers in the Province that are not of so unjust and unreasonable Tenets as to run the Risque of loosing their Lives, Liberties & Properties; it may reasonably be expected, that a considerable Force & an agreeable Supply, should be granted by Your Assembly; and tho' they are late in doining it, yet I hope at least they will shew themselves good Subjects, and attend to the Law of Nature, Self Preservation.

I am sorry for the Death of the Half King, but hope Monacatootha will supply his Place well, with a strong respect to the English Interest. I have ordered a considerable Present (to Wills Creek) for him and the Indians that are with him. I have no doubt but that the French will infest our Frontiers with small Detachments from the Fort on the Ohio. I have ordered a Company of Fifty Men for their Protection; and have directed the Lieutenants of our Frontier Counties, to raise Numbers of the Militia as Occasion or Intelligence may reach them, to oppose the Malicious Designs of our Enemies.— It will be much Pleasure to me to cheish with a strict Correspondence with You as it may tend to the service of the Crown and these Colonies.

I wish you a happy, easy, and long Government, and am with great Respect.

Sir.

Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Robt. Dinwiddie.

Letter from Governor Sharpe.

Annapolis November the 8th 1754

Sir,

I have received the favour of Your Letter acquainting me with Your safe Arrival in Your Government upon which I very heartily congratulate You and most sincerely wish you much Ease and Satisfaction in your Administration. Your early Declaration that you will always make it your Business to promote His Majesties Service and the Interest of these Colonies, that You will freely communicate to me the Measures that you shall esteem likely to contribute to that end is highly agreeable to me, as it gives me an Opportunity of assuring You that I will make it my Study, to deserve your Confidence, and that your Advice in any thing that might concern the Publick Service will with me always have the greatest Weight and Influence. You are I presume no stranger to His Majesties having been pleased to honour me with a Commission to take the Command of the Forces that may be raised for the Defence of these Colonies against the Encroachments and Invasion of his Majesties Enemies; and from your generous Professions I flatter my self with hopes that nothing will be wanting on your part to enable me to execute his Majesty's Commission with some Reputation, and repel the Danger that at this time threatens us. It would be I am persuaded impertenant in me to insist on or even to hint the fatal Consequences at must attend our conniving at the Encroachments the French have lately made on his Majesties Dominions in this part of the Continent, or suffering them to remain Masters of the Forts which they have built on the Frontiers of that Provina of this you are extreamly sensible, and I will not doubt but your Assembly when they meet again will shew a just regard to your Recommendation of the Service to their Consideration, and will manifest their Patriotism by granting such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs and the Danger that threatens their Country

does

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does at this time demand, indeed without large Assistance from them and the Neighbouring Colonies I dispair of answering in the least his Majesties Expectations and Royal Intention in honouring me with such a Commission; and shall be under the disagreable Necessity of excusing my failure or Inaction, and attribute them to the want of such Succors as his Majesty by his Secretary gives me room to expect from his good and loyal American Subjects, Should my hopes of your Assembly's Disposition prove well grounded. You will be kind enough to advise me by express thereof and acquaint me in what manner you judge they will be most inclined to afford Us their Assistance, that I may regulate my Conduct or lay my Plan of Operations accordingly. I would be much obliged to for endeavouring to get me Intelligence of the Number of the Enemy at Venango and their Fort on Buffaloe River, of the Situation and Strength of which I have in vain endeavoured to get a particular description. I should be also glad to learn whether there is any Road yet opened from the back Settlements in Pennsylvania to any of these places, and whether it would be impracticable to convey Provisions thither from your Province, either in Summer or the Winter Season. I returned last Sunday from Williamsburg, where I left the Virginia Assembly sitting, they had granted the Sum of £20,000 for the Service and were proceeding to prepare a Bill for levying a Number of Forces at once in that Province by obliging each County to furnish a certain Quota.

I am Sir with the greatest Esteem
Your most obedient humble Servant
Hor: Sharpe

Letter from Mr Croghan.

Aughwick Old Town October 16th 1754

Sir.

Two Days ago came here an old Man of the Six Nations from the French Fort on the Ohio and brought with him a very large Belt of Black Wampum with a Speech made on it by one of the Six Nations who lives with the Commandant in the Fort. the Speech was to desire those Indians to return imediately to the Ohio and settle themselves under their Fathers Arm where they might be sheure to be fed & cloathed with great Plenty and when their Wives and Children would be safe from the Attacks of any Enemy as they have plainly seen this Summer that no Enemy can stand before their Father the French.

The same Man sent me the Inclosed String of Wampum to desire me at my Peril not to interfese and stop those Indians from going home to their own Country. Those Indians Answer was that they never would return in Peace with the French but that they expected to live yet on the Ohio Lands which Lands justly belongs to them and their Brethren the English and not to the French. by every Indian that comes down from the Ohio we hear of great Preparations making by the French to attack the back Inhabitants in small Parties in hopes I suppose to put a Stop to any English Army marching out this fall which I think they need not dread. Colonel Innis has Built a Fortification at the Mouth of Wills's Creek opposite to the New Store, called Fort Mount Pleasent he has invited the Indians that is here to go to see him and receive a present from the Government of Virginia which he will deliver them, they set off to Morrow but leaves their Women and Children here behind till they return which they expect will be in ten Days.

You have Heard of the Half Kings Death I suppose which has been much

lamented

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lamented by all the Indians as Colonel Innis had sent for them I was obliged to make a Condolance Speech to them and a present of Goods to cover his Grave in the Name of the Governor of this Province as they could not see the Road nor hear what the Governor of Virginia had to say to them till that Ceremony had been done.

I am Sir your most
humble Servant
Geo: Croghan

A Letter from George Croghan to Governor Morris.

November 23d 1754.

May it please your Honour.

Four Days ago an Indian Man called Cavghenstain, of the Delaware Nation who has been gone six Weeks to the French Fort as a Spy returned and brings an Account that there was 1100 French came to the Fork or Ohio and 70 French Indians called Crundox and that there was more French at the head of Ohio and 300 Indians of the Coniwagos and Outaways which was expected every day when he left the Fort they have brought eight more Cannaeus with them he says that the French sent out three small parties of Indians against the English Settlements before he left that but where they are Distined he could not find out. He likewise says that there is 300 French Families Selling at the Twightee Town and there abouts which is a fine Country lying on this side the South West End of Lake Erie this News he had from a Man of his Nation who saw them and had bought three Cows from them. This News makes the Indians here very uneasy at whose Instance I am obligal to trouble your Honour with this Express. The Indians who went to the Camp at Virginia to Treat with that Government returned fifteen Days ago with a present of Goods, and in 10 days ten Men returnes to the Camp to stay there the Winter and act as Scouts. Monacatoothas and another Chief sets off at the return of this Express for the Onondago Country and proposes leaving the rest of the People here the Winter about One hundred and eighty in Number big and little at the Expence of the Government. I am

Your honours most humble
and most obedient Servant
Geo: Croghan.

P. S. I understand the reason of the French making those great preparations this Winter is from a report one of the Deserters from the Virginia Regiment took there this Summer that there was Four thousand of his Majestys Troops coming from England to Virginia to act this fall on the Expedition.

Pennsylvania 1754.

Extract from a Letter to the late Governor from Mr Daniel Clause in October 1754.

To Give your Honour an Account of all the false and unjust Stories the French spread among the Six Nations about Washington's defeat would take more than one Sheet. the only Remedy for the English to convince the Indians of the contrary will be to shew them at once, that they can do more by Strength than the French with their idle Stories, but the sooner the better, otherwise the French will gain so much by it as to gain all the Indians in their Alliance, which then may prove a very hard Task to get the better of them. particular as there is a confirmed Account of a great many of the Six Nations being gone lately to Canada, notwithstanding the Commissioners thought to have stopped them from going, but they neither fear nor regard them; and by what I understood by the Interpreter, many of them resolved not to listen to what was desired or sent to them by the Commissioners, but that there Fire was burning at Colonel Johnson's. the last Treaty of Peace they made with the French Indians seems quite odd and unnatural, as they used the Terms, that in case a War should break out they would refuse Acting, neither should they listen if the King of France would desire their Assistance, when they came to the Mohawks they had their Joke about it and called them Fools, as what I understand, their real Scheme was to draw the Mohawks with them, and actually prevailed upon several Families to go along.

A true Copy
Richard Peters.

Mr Clause lives with Hendrick the Mohawk Chief at the upper Mohock Castle.

A Letter from Mr Daniel Clause to Mr Peters.

Canajoharee Castle 8br 29th 1754

Honoured Sir:

Youll have doubtless received my Letter from 5ptember last; by an opportunity going to York I would make it my Incumbance to acquaint your Honour of my living now with Henry the Sachem of this Castle, I translated your Letter to him, and he promised to fulfill what lays in his Power, & thanks you for the Confidence you put in him, and will send you an Answer by the next opportunity with all the News and other Affairs which happened this good while past.

I cant give your Honour any extraordinary News, except what I heard by the way of Oswego that there was about one hundred of the Six Nations gone to Canada They told the People that asked them about their going that it was of no bad Consequence, and they need not be afeard of any thing they would take care of themselves by what People can conceive it is more out of fear, as the French go on in such active & rash a manner. they say there never was the like seen how quick the said Nations turned after Col: Washingtons defeat; it is ever since confirmed by different Accounts that there was but two French Men and one Indian killed in the said Action and that the English had been all drunk.

The 20th Instant arrived here two Indians from Ohio which brought a Letter from Cayenquirehóa; in the Name of the half King and Sharonyada to

Hendrick

Pennsylvania 1754.

Hendrick wherein he Speaks to the Six Nations and says that the News came among on that the French King called all his Indians together, and was agoing out with a great party in order to encounter the English who would not listen to his Proposals, but was going to do Mischief, he therefore would meet them at the Mountains. that there was 400 Indians: as Caghnawas, Orendox and River Indians or Ahotsaganes, with him.

He tells in the letter that the Six Nations should not make one Days delay to rise for their Assistance, and gives an Account of their Brethren now in Alliance with them who was the Twightwees, Kosagas, Chickasas, Cherakees, Catawbas, Ishiyayktagh, and Weannat, which he says was all in the English Interest, and were then to meet in a Body about January at Tiyonderago here reflects to the Six Nations what strong an Arm they would have against the French in case the Eastern Indians would Joyn as well as the Western and concludes with encouraging the Six Nations, not to neglect their Lives, and adds that the Half King alias Tohanaghrisho. Sharoyade and him Cayenquirehoa would live and die with the English.

Henry sent the News imediately among the Six Nations. I dare Say if the said Nations were properly managed so that they might be acquainted of the Forces the English have and assured of being assisted by them in case of need, such delusions of the French would never take place.

I remember to have read in one of Coll: Johnsons Journals among the six Nations, last War, when he had an Account of the said Nations being ready to go to Canada where he told them by a large Belt that they might be assured of his Assistance with a sufficient Party of Men, in case of Need, at the same time he expected and desired by that Belt, that none of them should pretend to go to Canada and that any one that would transgress his desire he must look at as an Enemy, and by the first Opportunity would reward him as an Enemy deserved, whereupon after a long and serious Consultation they agreed to his Desire, and none of them were heard of to have been there &c.

I have not since my last heard any thing about Lydius's Purchase except that the Oneidas have also. I suppose Henry will mention something in his Letter when he writes; I am in the mean while with due Respect

Honoured Sir

Your very humble Servt.

Dan: Claus

A Letter from John Harris to Mr Peters

Philad.a October 29th 1754

Sir

On the first of this Instant Monacatootha and several others the Chiefs of the six Nations came to my house and brought the half King and his Family along with them who were in General in a very low condition, particularly himself who died in a few days; after which I asked Monacatootha and others where they chused to bury him, and in what Manner, or if they wanted any thing necessary for his Funeral. Their Answer was that they looked upon him to be like one of ourselves and ask'd us among us we might bury him as we thought proper, that if he was buried well, it would be very good which I did much to their Satisfaction, immediately after Monacatootha and the Chiefs set off for Oughwhick, leaving the half King's Family and Relations under my Care (saying that in some short time there should some Horses and Indians come down for them which they have not yet done, and I have been at Expences for their Provisions and his Funeral, my Account I shall send down which I hope you'll be pleased to lay before the Assembly, I shall continue to give his Family necessary Provisions till they remove, & I should be satisfied how soon that might be) I conclude

Sir

Your most Obedient & most humble Servt.

John Harris

Then the Governour offer'd to the Council for their Judgment a Draught that he had prepared of a Speech to the Assembly which being read and after some Alterations approved a Message was sent to the House by the Secretary ordering their Attendance in the Council Chamber and on the Speakers coming with the House the Governour delivered the Speech in these Words.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly

"As you are now met for the Dispatch of Business, I think it my Duty to remind you of what I said at the Opening of the last Sitting, and to lay before you a Letter I have since received from Sir Thomas Robinson, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, signifying to me, "His Majesty's express Commands, that I should not only act vigorously in Defence of the Government under my Care; but that I should likewise be aiding and assisting his Majesty's other Colonies, to repel any hostile Attempts made against them."

"At the Time of writing that Letter, on the Fifth of July last, his Majesty, and his Ministers, were only informed, that the French had drove some of the Virginia Troops from a Place on Ohio, at the Mouth of Mohongiala, and were erecting a Fort there; and you will observe, they think these Advantages, gained by the French, "might have been in a great Measure, if not totally, prevented, if every one of his Majesty's governments had exerted themselves according to the Directions in the Earl of Holderness's Letter of the Twenty-eighth of August."

"You are sensible, that many Things have happened since the Retreat from the Forks of Mohongiala, that have put our Affairs upon the Frontiers in a very bad Situation, much worse than his Majesty and his Ministers have any Knowledge of, or than they can possibly imagine; as they are well informed of the flourishing State of these Colonies, of the Numbers of Men they are capable of raising, and had great Reason to expect, that in a Matter, in which the Interest and Safety of the Colonies were so nearly concerned, they would have exerted themselves with uncommon Vigour."

"From the Letters and Intelligence I have ordered to be laid before you, it will appear that the French have now, at their Fort at Mohongiala, above a Thousand regular Troops, besides Indians, that they are well supplyed with Provisions, and that they have lately receiv'd an additional Number of Cannon; that their Upper Forts are also well garrisoned and provided, and that they are making a Settlement of Three Hundred Families in the Country of the Twightwees, at the South-West End of the Lake Erie.

"From those Papers you will likewise be informed, of the Use they have made of their last Year's Success among the Indians of the Six Nations, having prevailed with many of them to remove to Canada, who will either be neuter in the present Dispute, or take up Arms against us, while such few of the Indians, as still retain their Attachment to the English, dare not be active for us, till they see a Force in the Field superior to that of the French; and if that be not soon, they will certainly give up our Cause, and embrace the tempting Offers made them by the French.

"Gentlemen, it is now several Years since the French undertook this Expedition, and we have long had full Intelligence of their Designs, and of the Steps they have taken to carry them into Execution; their Progress indeed has been very surprizing, owing chiefly to the inactivity of the English Colonies, who, I am sorry to say, have looked with too much Indifference upon an Affair that must end in their Ruin, if not timely prevented.

"When you have maturely considered the Conduct of the French upon the present Occasion, and observed the Steadiness with which they have pursued a well-laid Plan, you cannot doubt but very considerable Men have been concerned in the Formation of this Scheme, and that proper Persons are employ'd in the Execution of it; and as the Circumstances of these Colonies are by no Means unknown to the French, they are doubtless prepared to make a vigorous Defence, and will not easily give up what they have taken so much Pains, and been at such Expence, to gain; but rather will be induced to attack us, knowing our weak and defenceless State, and that we are, as it were, an open Door for the Conquest of the rest of the Provinces. We must therefore resolve to act with Vigour, or not at all; for, in my Opinion, we had better not attempt than be defeated.

Then

Pennsylvania 1754

These Incroachments of the French upon the Territories of the Crown of Britain in America, have turned the Eyes of Europe to this Quarter of the World, as it is uncertain what Effects they may produce; the Conduct therefore of these Colonies will be more than ever the Object of their Attention, and ours in particular, who are most immediately concernes; for whether the French Forts are within the particular Limits of this Province or not, I look upon it to be very immaterial in the present Case, though in my Opinion they are clearly so; but be that as it may, our Situation at present is certainly very alarming — The French on our Borders are numerous, strong by fortified, well provided, and daily encreasing — The small Body of English Troops on the Frontiers, weakend by the Desertion from the Independent Companies, and the want of Discipline in the New Levies — The six Nations of Indians, formerly our firm Friends, divided among themselves, many of them gone over to the French, and others wavering, and in Doubt whether to follow their Brethren, or continue with us — The neighbouring Provinces (except Virginia) though nearly interested in the Issue of the present Affair, either contributing nothing towards the common Cause, or sparingly; and though Virginia has indeed given Thirty Thousand Pounds, yet it will avail but little, unless a considerable Body of Troops be sent from this Province, and kept up till the Work is done.

Permit me, therefore, Gentlemen, to press this Matter upon you; exert yourselves upon the present Occasion; dissipate the Cloud that hangs over your Country, and save her from the threatned Destruction. His Majesty, ever anxious for the Welfare of all his Subjects, excites and commands us — The Eyes of a British Parliament, of the People of our Mother Country, of the other American Colonies, and even of all Europe, are upon us — And the Fate of this Country, the Happiness or Misery of your Posterity, very much depend on your Resolutions.

I cannot therefore admit myself to doubt but you will enter seriously upon the Consideration of this important Affair, and, by enabling me to carry the King's Commands into full Execution, convince His Majesty of your Readiness to pay Obedience to his Royal Orders, set a seasonable and noble Example to the other Colonies, and shew your Constituents, that you have nothing more at Heart than to secure to them, and their Posterity, the Continuance of the many invaluable Blessings they enjoy.

December 3. 1754 Robert Hunter Morris

Mr. Weiser reminded the Governour of what passed at Aughwick between him and the Indians in September last, and his Journal being called for and read, the Governour, after consulting with Mr. Weiser, drew up the following Message to be sent them by the first Opportunity

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governour and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex upon Delaware.

To the Delaware Indians living on the River Ohio, and the Susquehannah.

Brethren

Be pleased to hear what I am going to say to you.

Brethren

Immediately after my Arrival to this Government of Pennsylvania which is committed to my Care by your Brethren the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, the then Governour that is — Mr. Hamilton gave me all the Papers relating to Indian Affairs in order that I might deliberate upon them. I found among them a Speech you made at Aughwick to Conrad Weiser the Provincial Interpreter to the Six United Nations, at which I am exceedingly well pleased, and have laid it before the Old and Wise People of Pennsylvania now met in Council. We are very glad that you so well remember the Arrival of that great Man William Penn and his People the first Settlers of Pennsylvania and that you are desirous the Treaty of Friendship

then made between our Forefathers on both Sides should last from Generation to Generation, as long as the World should stand. You judge right to say that we are one Flesh and Blood with you. We thank you for your Good Will and Kindness, and we do on our Side renew the said Treaty, made between our Forefathers.

Here a Belt of Wampum to be given

Brethren

Notwithstanding you now live at a great distance from us, we look upon you to be one People with us, and that You sprung up out of the same Spot of Earth where some of us did and now live upon it, We look upon the Place you now live on as a place of Sport and good Hunting, this never makes any Odds between Brethren, you are within Call, and we desire that a good Correspondence may be kept between us and you from time to time, especially in time of Danger. — Consider always that here is your Home and here your Council Fire has been burning for many Years.

Here give the largest Belt

Brethren

We desire that you will not listen to any thing contrary to what has been said to you now. You know how many false Stories are told, We on our side take no more Notice of them than of the Noise of little Birds singing in the Woods.

Here give a String of Wampum

Brethren

We are glad to hear that there subsists such a good Understanding between you and your Brethren the Shawanese, a People that we love; be pleased to give them this Belt of Wampum and thank them on our Behalf for the kind Speech (or Answer to our former Request) made at Aughwick in your Presence to this Government and delivered to Conrad Weiser.

Here a large Belt of Wampum

Robt. H. Morris

4

At a Council held at Philadelphia Tuesday the 17th December 1754.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governour.

John Penn, Benjamin Shoemaker, Richard Peters, Robert Strettle, William Logan } Esquires

The Governour informed the Board that on the 4th Instant he receiv'd two Letters from Mr. Croghan by Express to acquaint him that the Indians under his Care had held a Council in which it was agreed that Scarryady and two of the Sachems should immediately go to Onondago to lay before the Council the State of their Affairs and to take their Advice as to the part they should act on this seizure that the French had made of the Ohio and that all the Indians should stay at Aughwick till their Return. and they desired this might be made known to the Governour of Pennsylvania that he might be pleased to make Provision for their Subsistence. they desir'd likewise to know if he would send any Message by Scarryady to the Six

of burials since the 14th September last is Exact and true from his Book and the Acc^{t} of Coffins, Except those from Micheal Hillegass, which he thinks may be 6 or 8 more & some to be Buried this Day, Novem^{r} 14th, 1754.

"JACOB SHOEMAKER.

"Affirmed before me.

"CHA^{s} WILLING."

At a Council held at Philadelphia in the State House, 3d Decem^{r} 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

John Penn, Robert Strettell, } Esquires.
Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, }

Two Members waited upon the Governor and acquainted him that the House were met according to their Adjournment and desired to know if he had any thing to lay before them, and he told them that he should be at the Council Chamber at Eleven a'Clock this Morning, and would then send a Message to require their Attendance.

The Secretary in Pursuance of an Order under the Hand of the Speaker prepared a Writ to the Sheriff of the County of Philadelphia for electing a New Member to Serve in Assembly for that County in the room of Edward Warner, deceased, and the Governor Signed it, ordered the Lesser Seal to be put to it, and the Secretary to countersign it.

The Governor laid before the Council several Letters, which were read, considered, and ordered to be entered, Viz^{t}: A Letter from Sr Thomas Robinson, dated 5th July last; A Letter from Governor Dinwiddie, dated 8th November last; A Letter from Governor Sharp informing him that the King had given him the Command of the Troops to be raised against the French, dated likewise on the 8th November; Two Letters from George Croghan—one of the 16th October and another of the 23d November; Two Letters from Daniel Clause, one to Mr. Hamilton and another to Mr. Peters, dated the 29th of October last; A Letter from John Harris, of Paxtang, dated the 29th of October, giving an account of the Half King's Death.

—

Letter from Sr Thomas Robinson.

"WHITEHALL, July 5th, 1754.

"Sir:

"Your Letter of the twenty-fifth of November last in Answer to

the Earl of Holdernesse's of the twenty-eight of August, having been received and laid before the King, I am to acquaint you that it is his Majesty's express command that you should in Obedience thereto not only Act Vigorously in the Defence of the Government under your Care, but that you should likewise be aiding and assisting his Majestie's other American Colonies to repel any hostile Attempts made against them, and it was with great surprize that the King observed your total silence upon that part of His Majesty's Orders which relate to a concert with other Colonies, which you must be sensible is now become more essentially necessary for their common Defence, since the Account received by you from Major Washington with regard to the Hostilities committed by the French upon the River Ohio, which verify in Fact what was apprehended when the Earl of Holdernesse Wrote so fully to you in August last, and which might have been in a great measure if not totally prevented, had every one of his Majestie's Governments exexerted themselves according to those directions, the observance whereof I am now by the King's Command to enforce you in the strongest manner. I am,

"Sir, Your most obedient humble Serv't

"THOMAS ROBINSON.

Letter from Governor Dinwiddie.

"WILLIAMSBURG, November 8th, 1754.

"Sir:

"I have the Pleasure of Your Letter of the 12th October last, and I take this opportunity of congratulating you on your safe Arrival at your Government, and I sincerely wish You health and all the Blessings due to a good Governor.

"Our Assembly met last Month, and after strong Solicitations and Arguments they have voted 20,000 to enable me to conduct the necessary Expedition. His Majesty was also graciously pleased to send me 10,000 in Specie, and appointed Mr. Sharp to Command in Chief the combined Forces against the French on the Ohio. He has been here and consulted Measures for the operations, either this Winter or early in the Spring, which he will be Judge off when he gets to the Camp, where I presume he will soon be there.

"I am in Consequence of above Supplies raising of Levies to send to Wills' Creek with all Expedition; but I must observe, the above Supplies will come far short in Answering the End in driving the French from the Ohio, as I think not less than 250 Men can be employed to do the Business Essentially. It gave me much surprize to see in Your Papers that Your Assembly is adjourned

till the Second of next Month without granting any Assistance; I am sorry they should have desired it when the Enemy is so near our Frontiers; and if supplies were now granted the time is short enough to make proper Preparations, even if the Expedition be retarded to the Spring.

"Pray, Sir, endeavour to rouse them from their Lethergie, Supineness, to their Duty to the best of Kings and to their own Preservation; my Eyes have been strongly fixed on Your Province for a considerable Aid, and am still in Hopes that I shall not be disappointed.

"A Colony of Your Riches and great Number of Inhabitants to remain unactive in so imminent danger surprizes me, and must all well-wishers to these Colonies. Though they may plead some religious Tenets for their Excuse, yet as there are great Numbers in the Province that are not of so unjust and unreasonable Tenets as to run the Risque of loosing their Lives, Liberties, and Properties, it may reasonably be expected that a considerable Force & an agreeable supply should be granted by your Assembly; and tho' they are late in doing it, yet I hope at least they will shew themselves good Subjects and attend to the Law of Nature Self-Preservation.

"I am sorry for the Death of the Half King, but hope Monea-tootha will supply his place well, with a strong respect to the English Interest. I have ordered a considerable present (to Wills' Creek) for him and the Indians that are with him. I have no doubt but that the French will infest our Frontiers with small Detachments from the Fort on the Ohio. I have ordered a Company of Fifty Men for their protection, and have directed the Lieutenants of our Frontier Counties to raise Numbers of the Militia, as Occasion or Intelligence may reach them, to oppose the malicious designs of our Enemies. It will be much pleasure to me to keep up a strict Correspondence with You, as it may tend to the Service of the Crown and these Colonies.

"I wish You a happy, easy, and long Government, and am with great Respect,

"Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant,

"ROBERT DINWIDDIE."

Letter from Governor Sharpe.

"ANNAPOLIS, November the 8th, 1754.

"Sir:

"I have received the favour of Your Letter acquainting me with Your safe Arrival in Your Government, upon which I very heartily congratulate You, and most sincerely wish you much Ease and

Satisfaction in your Administration. Your early Declaration that you will always make it your Business to promote His Majestie's Service and the Interest of these Colonies, that You will freely communicate to me the Measures that you shall esteem likely to contribute to that end is highly agreeable to me, as it gives me an oppertunity of assuring You that I will make it my Study to deserve your Confidence, and that Your advice in any thing that might concern the Public Service will with me always have the greatest Weight and Influence. You are, I presume, no Stranger to His Majestie's having been pleased to honour me with a Commission to take the Command of the Forces that may be raised for ye Defence of these Colonies against the Encroachments and Invasion of his Majestie's Enemies, and from your generous professions I flatter myself with hopes that nothing will be wanting on your part to enable me to Execute his Majestie's Commission with some Reputation, and repel the Danger that at this time threatens us. It would be, I am persuaded, impertenant in me to insist on or even to hint the fatal Consequences that must attend our conniving at the Encroachments the French have lately made on his Majestie's Dominions in this part of the Continent, or suffering them to remain Masters of the Forts which they have built on the Frontiers of that Province. Of this you are extreamly sensible, and I will not doubt but your Assembly, when they meet again, will shew a just regard to our Recommendation of the Service to their Consideration, and will manifest their Patriotism by granting such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs and the Danger that threatens their Country does at this Time demand; indeed without large Assistance from them and the Neighbouring Colonies I dispair of answering in the least his Majestie's Expectations and Royal Intention in honouring me with such a Commission, and shall be under the disagreeable Necessity of excusing my failure or Inaction, and attribute them to the want of such Succors as his Majesty, by his Secretary, gives me room to expect from his good and loyal American Subjects. Shou'd my hopes of your Assembly's Disposition prove well grounded, You will be kind enough to advise me by express thereof, and acquaint me in what manner you judge they will be most inclined to afford Us their Assistance, that I may regulate my Conduct or lay my Plan of Operations accordingly. I would be much obliged to you for endeavouring to get me Intelligence of the Number of the Enemy at Wenango and their Fort on Buffeloe River, of the Situation and Strength of which I have in vain endeavoured to get a particular description. I should be also glad to learn whether there is any Road yet opened from the back Settlements in Pennsylvania to any of these places, and whether it would be impracticable to convey Provisions thither from your Province either in Summer or the Winter Season. I returned last Sunday from Williamsburg, where I left the Virginia Assembly sitting; they had granted the Sum of £20,000 for the Service, and were proceeding

to prepare a Bill levying a Number of Forces at once in that Province by obliging each County to furnish a certain Quota.

"I am, Sir, with the greatest Esteem,

"Your most obedient humble Servant,

"HOR° SHARPE."

—

Letter from Mr. Croghan.

"AUGHWICK OLD TOWN, October 16th, 1754.

"Sir:

"Two Days ago came here an old Man of the Six Nations from the French Fort on the Ohio, and brought with him a very large Belt of Black Wampum with a Speech made on it by one of the Six Nations who lives with the Commandent in the Fort. The Speech was to desire those Indians to return immediately to the Ohio and settle themselves under their Father's Arm, where they might be shure to be fed & Cloathed with great Plenty, and when there their Wives and Children wou'd be safe from the Attacks of any Enemy, as they have plainly seen this Summer that no Enemy can stand before their Father the French.

"The same Man sent me the Inclosed String of Wampum to desire me at my Peril not to interfere and stop those Indians from going home to their own Country. Those Indian's Answer was that they never would return in Peace with the French; but that they expected to live yet on the Ohio Lands, which Lands justly belongs to them and their Brethren the English, and not to the French. By every Indian that comes down from the Ohio we hear of great Preparations making by the French to attack the back Inhabitants in small Parties, in hopes, I suppose, to put a Stop to any English Army marching out this fall, which I think they need not dread. Colonel Innis has Built a Fortification at the Mouth of Wills' Creek opposite to the New Store called Fort Mount Pleasant. He has invited the Indians that is here to go to see him and receive a Present from the Government of Virginia which he will deliver them. They set off to-Morrow, but leaves their Women and Children here behind till they return, which they expect will be in ten Days.

"You have heard of the Half King's Death I suppose, which has been much lamented by all the Indians; as Colonal Innis had sent for them I was obliged to make a Condolance Speech to them and a present of Goods to cover his Grave in the name of the Governor of this Province, as they cou'd not see the Road nor hear what the Governor of Virginia had to say to them till that Ceremony had been done.

"I am, Sir, your most humble Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN."

A Letter from George Croghan to Governor Morris.

"NOVEMBER, 23d, 1754,

"May it please your Honour:

"Four Days ago an Indian Man called Canghenstain, of the Delaware Nation, who has been gone Six Weeks to the French Fort as a Spy, returned and brings an Account that there was 1,100 French came to the Fort on Ohio and 70 French Indians called Orundox, and that there was more French at the head of Ohio and 300 Indians of the Coniwagos and Outaways, which was expected every day when he left the Fort. They have brought eight more Cannoes with them. He says that the French sent out three small parties of Indians against the English Settlements before he left that, but where they are Destined he cou'd not find out. He likewise says that there is 300 French Families settling at the Twightwee Town and thereabouts, which is a fine Country lying on this side the South-West end of Lake Erie. This News he had from a Man of his Nation who saw them and had bought three Cows from them. This News makes the Indians here very uneasy, at whose Instance I am obliged to trouble your Honour with this Express. The Indians who went to the Camp at Virginia to Treat with that Government Returned fifteen Days ago with a Present of Goods, and in 10 days ten Men returned to the Camp to stay there the Winter and Act as Scouts. Monacathotha and another Chief sets off at the return of this Express for the Onondago Country, and proposes leaving the rest of the People here the Winter, about One hundred and eighty in Number, big and little, at the Expence of the Government. I am

"Your honour's most humble and most obedient Servant,

"GEO. CROGHAN.

"P. S.—I understand the reason of the French making those great preparations this Winter is from a report one of the Deserters from the Virginia Regiment took there this Summer, that there was Four thousand of his Majesty's Troops coming from England to Virginia to act this fall in the Expedition."

—

Extract from a Letter to the late Governor from Mr. Daniel Clause in October, 1754.

"To give your Honour an Account of all the false and unjust Stories the French spread among the Six Nations about Washington's defeat wou'd take more than one Sheet. The only Remedy for the English to convince the Indians of the contrary will be to shew them at once that they can do more by Strength than the French with their idle Stories, but the sooner the better, otherwise

the French will gain so much by it as to gain all the Indians in their Alliance, which then may prove a very hard Task to get the better of them, particularly as their is a confirmed Account of a great many of the Six Nations being gone lately to Canada, notwithstanding the Commissioners thought to have stopped them from going, but they neither fear nor regard them, and by what I understand by the Interpreter many of them resolved not to listen to what was desired or sent to them by the Commissioners, but their Fire was burning at Colonel Johnson's. The last Treaty of Peace they made with the French Indians seems quite odd and unnatural, as they used the Terms, that in case a War should break out they would refuse Acting, neither should they listen if the King of France would desire their Assistance; when they came to the Mohawks they had their Joke about it and called them Fools; by what I understand their real Scheme was to draw the Mohawks with them, and actually prevailed upon several Families to go along.

"A true Copy.

"RICHARD PETERS.

"Mr. Clause lives with Hendrick, the Mohawk Chief, at the upper Mohock Castle."

—

A Letter from Mr. Daniel Clause to Mr. Peters.

"CANAJOHAREE CASTLE, 8$^{ber.}$ 29$^{th.}$ 1754.

"Honoured Sir:—

"You'll have doubtless received my Letter from September last by an opportunity going to York. I wou'd make it my Incumbrance to acquaint your Honour of my living now with Henry the Sachem of this Castle. I translated your Letter to him and he promised to fulfill what layd in his Power, & thanks you for the Confidence you put in him, and will send you an Answer by the next opportunity with all the News and other Affairs which happened this good while past.

"I can't give your Honour any extraordinary News except what I heard by the way of Oswego, that there was about one hundred of the Six Nations gone to Canada. They told the People that asked them about their going that it was of no bad Consequence and they need not be afeard of any thing, they wou'd take care of themselves; by what People can conceive it is more out of fear as the French go on in such active & Rash a manner, they say there never was the like seen how quick the said Nations turned after Col. Washington's defeat; it is even since confirmed by different Accounts that there was but two French Men and one Indian killed in the said Action, and that the English had been most all drunk.

"The 20th Instant arrived here two Indians from Ohio which brought a Letter from Cayenquireko'a in the Name of the half King and Skar'onyada to Hendrick, wherein he Speaks to the Six Nations and says that the News came among 'em that the French King called all his Indians together, and was agoing out with a great Party in order to encounter the English who wou'd not listen to his Proposals, but was going to do Mischief, he therefore wou'd meet them at the Mountains; that there was 400 Indians as Caghnawas, Orendax and River Indians or Akotsaganes, with him.

"He tells us in the Letter that the Six Nations shou'd not make one Day's delay to rise for their Assistance, and gives an Account of their Brethren now in Alliance with them, who was the Twightwees, Kosagas, Chickasas, Cherokees, Catawbas, Tshiyayktagh, and Weannat, which he says was all in the English Interest, and were they to meet in a Body about January at Tiyonderago he reflects to the Six Nations what strong an Arm they wou'd have against the French in case the Eastern Indians wou'd Joyn as well as the Western, and concludes with encouraging the Six Nations not to neglect their Lives, and adds that the Half King alias Tohanaghrieshoe, Skaroeyade, and him Cayenquirekoa, wou'd live and die with the English.

"Henry sent the News imediately among the Six Nations. I dare say if the Said Nations were properly managed so that they might be acquainted of the Forces the English have, and assured of being assisted by them in case of need, such delusions of the French wou'd never take place.

"I remember to have read in one of Coll. Johnson's Journals among the Six Nations last War, when he had an Account of the said Nations being ready to go to Canada, where he told them by a large Belt that they might be assured of his Assistance with a sufficient Party of Men in case of Need; at the same time he expected and desired by that Belt that none of them should pretend to go to Canada, and that any one that would trangress his desire he must look at as an Enemy, and by the first Oppertunity would reward him as an Enemy deserv'd; whereupon, after a long and serious Consultation they agreed to his Desire, and none of them were heard of to have been there, &c.

"I have not since my last heard any thing about * * Lydius's Purchase except that the Oneidas have * * * also; I suppose Henry will mention something in his Letter when he writes. I am in the meanwhile with due Respect,

"Honoured Sir, Your very humble Serv't

"DAN. CLAUS."

A Letter from John Harris to Mr Peters.

"PHILADA., October 29th, 1754.

"Sir:

"On the first of this Instant Monacatootha and Several Others, the Chiefs of the Six Nations, came to my house and brought the half King and his Family along with them, who were in General in a very low Condition, particularly himself, who died in a few days, after which I asked Monacatootha and others where they chused to bury him and in what Manner, or if they wanted any thing Necessary for his funeral; their Answer was that they looked upon him to be like one of our Selves, and as he died among us we might bury him as we thought proper; that if he was buried well it would be very good, which I did much to their Satisfaction. Immediately after Monacatootha and the Chiefs Set of for Aughquick, leaving the half King's family and Relations under my Care (saying that in some short time there should some horses and Indians come down for them, wch they have not yet done, and I have been at Expences for their Provissions and his Funeral; my Account I shall send down, which I hope you'll be pleas'd to lay before the Assembly. I shall continue to give his Family necessary Provissions till they Remove, & I should be satisfied how soon that might be). I conclude, Sir, your Most obedient & most Humble Servt

"JOHN HARRIS."

Then the Governour offer'd to the Council for their Judgment a Draught that he had prepared of a Speech to the Assembly, which being read, and after some Alterations approved, a Message was sent to the House by the Secretary ordering their Attendance in the Council Chamber; and on the Speaker's coming with the House the Governor delivered the Speech in these Words:

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:

"As you are now met for the Dispatch of Business I think it my Duty to remind you of what I said at the Opening of the last Sitting, and to lay before you a Letter I have since received from Sir Thomas Robinson, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, signifying to me 'His Majesty's express Commands that I should not only act vigorously in Defence of the Government under my Care, but that I should likewise be aiding and assisting his Majesty's other Colonies to repel any hostile Attempts made against them.'

"At the Time of writing that Letter, on the Fifth of July last, His Majesty and His Ministers were only informed that the French had drove some of the Virginia Troops from a Place on Ohio at the Mouth of Mohongialo and were erecting a Fort there; and you will observe they think those Advantages gained by the French 'might have been in a great Measure if not totally prevented if every one

of His Majesty's Governments had exerted themselves according to the Directions in the Earl of Holderness' Letter of the Twenty-eighth of August.'

"You are sensible that many Things have happened since the Retreat from the Forks of Mohongialo that have put our Affairs upon the Frontiers in a very bad Situation, much worse than His Majesty and His Ministers have any Knowledge of, or than they can possibly imagine, as they are well informed of the flourishing State of these Colonies, of the Numbers of Men they are capable of raising, and had great Reason to expect that in a Matter in which the Interest and Safety of the Colonies were so nearly concerned they would have exerted themselves with uncommon Vigor.

"From the Letters and Intelligence I have ordered to be laid before you it will appear that the French have now at their Fort at Mohongialo above a Thousand regular Troops besides Indians; that they are well supply'd with Provisions, and that they have lately receiv'd an additional Number of Cannon; that their Upper Forts are also well garrisoned and provided, and that they are making a Settlement of Three Hundred Families in the Country of the Twightwees at the South-West End of the Lake Erie.

"From those Papers you will likewise be informed of the Use they have made of their last Year's Success among the Indians of the Six Nations—having prevailed with many of them to remove to Canada, who will either be neuter in the present Dispute or take up Arms against us; while such few of the Indians as still retain their Attachment to the English dare not be active for us till they see a Force in the Field superior to that of the French, and if that be not soon they will certainly give up our Cause and embrace the tempting Offers made them by the French.

"Gentlemen: it is now several Years since the French undertook this Expedition, and we have long had full Intelligence of their Designs and of the Steps they have taken to carry them into Execution. Their Progress indeed has been very surprising, owing chiefly to the inactivity of the English Colonies, who I am sorry to say have looked with two much Indifference upon an Affair that must end in their Ruin if not timely prevented.

"When you have maturely considered the Conduct of the French upon the present Occasion, and observed the Steadiness with which they have pursued a well-laid Plan, you cannot doubt but very considerable Men have been concerned in the Formation of this Scheme, and that proper persons are employ'd in the Execution of it; and as the circumstances of these Colonies are by no Means unknown to the French, they are doubtless prepared to make a vigorous Defence, and will not easily give up what they have taken so much Pains and been at such Expence to gain, but rather will be induced to attack us, knowing our weak and defenceless State, and that we are as it were an open door for the Conquest of the rest of the

Provinces. We must, therefore, resolve to act with Vigour or not at all, for in my Opinion we had better not attempt than be defeated.

"These Incroachments of the French upon the Territories of the Crown of Britain in America have turned the Eyes of Europe to this Quarter of the World, as it is uncertain what Effects they may produce; the Conduct, therefore, of these Colonies will be more than ever the Object of their attention, and ours in particular, who are most immediately concerned; for whether the French Forts are within the particular Limits of this Province or not I look upon to be very immaterial in the present Case, though in my Opinion they are clearly so; but be that as it may, our Situation at present is certainly very alarming. The French on our Borders are numerous, strongly fortified, well provided, and daily encreasing. The small Body of English Troops on the Frontiers weaken'd by the Desertion from the Independent Companies, and the want of Discipline in the New Levies. The six Nations of Indians formerly our firm Friends, divided among themselves, many of them gone over to the French, and others wavering and in Doubt whether to follow their Brethren or continue with us. The neighbouring Provinces (except Virginia) though nearly Interested in the Issue of the present Affair, either contributing nothing towards the common Cause or sparingly; and though Virginia has indeed given Thirty Thousand Pounds, yet it will avail but little unless a considerable Body of Troops be sent from this Province and kept up till the Work is done.

"Permit me, therefore, Gentlemen to press this Matter upon you; exert yourselves upon the present Occasion; dissipate the Cloud that hangs over your Country and Save her from the threatned Destruction. His Majesty ever anxious for the welfare of all his Subjects excites and command Us; The Eyes of a British Parliament, of the People of our Mother Country, of the other American Colonies, and even of all Europe are upon Us; And the Fate of this Country, the Happiness or Misery of Your Posterity, very much depend on your Resolutions.

"I cannot, therefore, admit myself to doubt but you will enter Seriously upon the Consideration of this important Affair, and by enabling me to carry the King's Commands into full Execution convince His Majesty of your Readiness to pay Obedience to his Royal Orders, Set a Seasonable and noble Example to the other Colonies, and shew your Constituents that You have nothing more at Heart than to secure to them and their Posterity the Continuance of the many invaluable Blessings they enjoy.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"December 3, 1754."

Mr. Weiser reminded the Governour of what passed at Augh-

wick between him and the Indians in September last, and his Journal being called for and read, the Governour after consulting with Mr. Weiser drew up the following Message to be sent them by the first Opportunity:

"*The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and the Counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware,*

"*To the Delaware Indians living on the River Ohio and the Susquehannah:*

"Bretheren:

"Be pleased to hear what I am going to say to you.

"Bretheren:

"Immediately after my Arrival to this Government of Pennsylvania, which is committed to my Care by your Bretheren the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, the then Governour, that is Mr. Hamilton, gave me all the Papers relating to Indian Affairs in order that I might deliberate upon them. I found among them a Speech you made at Aughwick to Conrad Weiser the Provincial Interpreter to the Six United Nations, at which I am exceedingly well pleased and have laid it before the Old and Wise People of Pennsylvania now met in Council. We are very glad that you so well remember the Arrival of that great Man William Penn and his People the first Settlers of Pennsylvania, and that you are desirous the Treaty of Friendship then made between our Forefathers on both Sides should last from Generation to Generation as long as the World should stand. You judge right to say that we are one Flesh and Blood with you. We thank you for your Good Will and Kindness, and we do on our Side renew the Said Treaty made between our Forefathers."

Here a Belt of Wampum to be given.

"Bretheren:

"Notwithstanding you now live at a great distance from us we look upon you to be one People with us, and that you sprung up out of the same Spot of Earth where some of us did, and now live upon it. We look upon the Place you now live on as a place of Sport and good Hunting; this never makes any Odds between Bretheren. You are within Call, and we desire that a good Correspondence may be kept between us and you from time to time, especially in time of Danger. Consider always that here is your Home, and here your Council Fire has been burning for many Years."

Here give the largest Belt.

"Bretheren:

"We desire that you will not listen to any thing contrary to what

has been said to you now. You know how many false Stories are told. We, on our side, take no more Notice of them than of the Noise of little Birds singing in the Woods."

Here give a String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"We are glad to hear that there subsists such a good Understanding between you and your Brethren the Shawonese, a People that we love. Be pleased to give them this Belt of Wampum, and thank them on our Behalf for the kind Speech (or Answer to our former Request) made at Aughwick in your Presence to this Government and delivered to Conrad Weiser."

Here a large Belt of Wampum.

"[L. S.] ROBT. H. MORRIS."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 17th December, 1754.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire Lieutenant Governour.

John Penn, Benjamin Shoemaker, Richard Peters, Robert Strettle, William Logan, } Esquires.

The Governour inform'd the Board that on the 4th Instant he receiv'd two Letters from Mr. Croghan by Express to acquaint him "that the Indians under his Care had held a Council, in which it was agreed that Scaroyady and two of the Sachems should immediately go to Onondago to lay before the Council the State of their Affairs, and to take their Advice as to the Part they should act on this seizure that the French had made of the Ohio, and that all the Indians should stay at Aughwick till their Return, and they desired this might be made known to the Governour of Pennsylvania that he might be pleased to make provision for their Subsistence. They desir'd likewise to know if he would send any Message by Scarooyady to the Six Nations."

The Letters were laid before the Assembly, accompanied with this Message:

"Gentlemen:

"I have ordered two Letters which I received by Express from Mr. George Croghan, the Person entrusted with the Care of the Indians at Aughwick, to be laid before you, by which you will be informed of the Proposals made by the French to the Indians that removed from the Ohio, and of their Answer.

"These People have been hitherto maintained by this Province,

New York 15th December 1754 158

My Lord

I have the Honour of your Lordships Letter of the 5th of July last: and am fully acquainted with your Lordships sentiments on Indian affairs; that the preserving and securing the friendship of the six Nations of Indians is in the present situation of affairs an Object of the greatest importance, and that nothing can be added to the weight of your Lordships observations on that head. The only Method I conceive to attain this salutary End, is by building Forts to cover them against the insults of the French and their Indians. I shall therefore beg your Lordships patience while I lay my thoughts before you, tho you will find a Repetition of several things which I have formerly mentioned

The French have all along had a design upon this Province, as being most conveniently situated for them, and, if in their hands, would cut off all Communication between his Majesty's Subjects and the six Nations, to the infinite Prejudice of all the Southern Colonies: Encreased

apprehend

The Right Hon.ble Lord Holderness One of his Majesties

apprehend we are in great danger, and that the French will upon the first opportunity, bend their whole Force against this Province, which is unable, with its own Strength only, to defend itself against them.

In order therefore to prevent or defeat such an Attempt, I would humbly propose that his Majesty be pleased to order a Regiment into this Province, and to direct the Governors of New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusets-Bay, and New Hampshire to use their utmost Endeavours to bring their Assemblies to furnish their respective Quotas, towards Building the several Forts following; to be garrisoned by the Kings Troops but victualled by the Provinces

One on the wood Creek, which is about twelve Miles from Hudsons River: &

One at the South End of the Lake Sacrament; about twenty Miles from that River.

The Waters of this Creek and Lake, after their Junction, pass Crown Point, and fall into the Lake Champlain, and so run into St. Lawrence River, and make the common Passage between this Country and Montreal; and it is from this Creek and Lake that the French can and do enter this Province, Massachusets Bay, and New Hampshire — New Jersey.

Connecticut

Connecticut & Rhode Island, are covered by New York, and Rensselaer's Bay.

There are many Reasons why these Forts should be built.

1st They will be a Security to the Mohawk Indians, and to the Mohawk Country, as the French will not be able to push towards them, without a discovery.

2dly When his Majesty's Arms are employed on the Ohio, Beave River, and the Peninsula on the Lake Erie, the French will probably make a strong Push on the northern parts of this Province, as being most defenceless, to cause a Diversion this Way: Which these Forts may prevent or obstruct.

3dly If there should be a Design against Crown Point, or even Montreal, these Forts will be usefull stations to favour and facilitate such an Undertaking, being placed at the head of the Waters which East thither.

4thly It is necessary they should be built to assert his Majesty's Right to the Lands there. for by what I can conjecture from the Motions of the French, they will lay claim to the heads of all the Waters that empty themselves into the Rivers St Lawrence and Mississippi; and if they carry these Claims into Execution, they will prove very detrimental and dangerous to the British

Colonies

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Colonies in North America.

The other Forts I would propose are,
One in the Onondaga Country, being the Place
where the general Councils of the six Nations
are held: A proper Officer posted here, and made
a Sachem by the Governor of New York, (who exer-
cises this Right) would have a Seat in their
Councils, and, with proper management,
might have a considerable influence in their
Deliberations. and

The other Fort to be built at a place called
Tieorondoquat, in the Senecais Country, on the
Lake Ontario, about 80 miles westward of his
Majesty's Fort at Niagra, and nearly the same
Distance from the French Fort at the great Fall
of Niagara — At Tieorondoquat there is very
good Land, and a Settlement might soon be
made under the Protection of this Fort, if the
Lands were granted without Rent for a few
years, and afterwards at a small quit Rent,
and the Officer to pay the Garrison without Fees:
Here the Seneca River falls into the Lake
Ontario: By means of this Fort and Settlement,
and the Trade, which in consequence would be
carried on with the Senecas, so near their own
Habitations, we might soon gain an Ascendant
over them, and fix the Affections of their Indians.

who are the most numerous of the five Nations,
and from hence we might in a little time be
in a Condition to dislodge the French from Niagara
a Post they have built without all question within
his Majesty's Territories, being in the Country of
the Senecas, one of the five Cantons of Indians
acknowledged by the Treaty of Utrecht to be
Subject to the Dominion of Great Britain.
Niagara is a remarkable and important Pass
between the Lakes Ontario and Erie, which the
French have use in their way from Montreal
to the Ohio: So that if we become Masters of it
there would be an End of their Encroachments
on that quarter, as they would then be obliged
to take so large a Circuit, attended with such
Difficulties, as would render the marching a
Body of Men to the Ohio with their Provisions &c
in a manner impracticable: And the gaining
this Pass would open a large Trade with the Indians,
of which the French at present reap the sole benefit.

The Advantages arising from this Post
would be very considerable: They would encourage
those Indians who are well affected to us: fix the
wavering, and be a Curb on those who are inclined
to the French: So that they would be sure, by
Choice or Necessity. Add to this, if the Forts at
Swego standing at the Mouth of the River, were
enlarged and strongly garrisoned, the French
might be deprived of all intercourse with the

Onondaga

Onondaga and Oneida Indians, for one Branch of that River comes from Onondaga, and the other from the Oneida Country, and after their Confluence pass under the Fort at Oswego into the Lake Ontario.

Were these things effected, I am perswaded the six Nations would readily join us in any Enterprize against the French; and as they have very large Alliances, we should soon be an overmatch for the French, and prevent them from drawing off so many of our Indians as they continually do, for which purpose they spare no Arts or Expence.

A general Union of the Colonies becomes every day more necessary, and the necessity more visible. for in the present disjointed Way in which the Colonies act, and some will not act at all, nothing is or can be done to answer effectually the good purposes of defeating the French Plan to render themselves Masters of these Countries, and to engross all the Indian Trade. I have sent your Lordships the general Plan of an Union, concerted at the Congress at Albany. It was then the general opinion that the Colonies would differ in their Measures, and disagree about their Quotas, so that it appeared necessary to have the Interposition of the British Parliament to oblige the Colonies; and I think it will not be done other-

wise

service. I

I should be glad if the Observations I have made
on the disputes between New York and New Jersey
can be of any Service: His Majesty is greatly concerned
in that Controversy, and I am surprised that the
Construction put on the Duke of York's Grant of
Jersey, had not been taken Notice of before, since it
appears so very obvious. I hope a temporary Line
of Jurisdiction will soon be settled by his Majesty's
Authority, that so the Mischief which is justly
apprehended from the Heat and Violence of the
Jersey Proprietors may be prevented: I inclose your
Lordships a printed Copy of the Report of the Council
on the Depositions taken by the Jersey Proprietors, to whom
I had referred the Consideration of those Matters
and your Lordships will find in pages 20 and 21
of the printed Proceedings of the Assembly the
Report of a Committee of that House on the Jersey
Line, and in page 37 the Message of the House to me
on that Subject, which seem to me to evince the
necessity of the speedy settlement of a temporary
Line: and from these Papers it will appear that both
the Council and Assembly advise me to extend the
Jurisdiction of this Government up to the supposed
Line of the year 1686, which I shall endeavour to do
in the best manner I can, yet so as to avoid if
possible any Mischief.

By an Act of this Colony passed in the 10th year of
the Reign of William the 3d it is enacted that
Hackensack, and great and little Minesink

shall

should be annexed to the County of Ulster, and that the Inhabitants thereof should give their Votes for Representatives in the County of Ulster; so that it evidently appears that these Places were settled above fifty years ago under this Province, and can any thing be more unreasonable than that the Proprietors of Jersey should remove these ancient Settlers upon a bare Claim, and before any Proof of Right. This Act, 13 William 3, is entitled [An Act for the more regular Proceedings in the Elections of Representatives for the several Cities and Counties within this Province] and was not made with a View to any Dispute with the Jerseys, but on Disputes which had arisen between the County of Orange, which lies next to Jersey, and the County of Ulster which lies to the Northward of Orange. Your Lordships will see the Reasonableness of this Province to come to a final Decision of the Controversy by the Act inclosed.

I have given your Lordships an Account that upon my calling the Assembly together, and having prest them to give their Assistance towards enabling them to repel the French from the Ohio, they granted the Sum of £5000, which I sent by Capt.r Legge, and came safely to the hands of Mr Innis said die: They then in consideration of the Season desired a short Recess, which I granted them. At their next Meeting, having received your Lordships Letter of the 5.th of July 1753. I used my Endeavours with

them

them to come into a Method of supporting the Government agreable to his Majesty's Instructions, by urging the Arguments in your Lordships Letter to shew the unreasonableness of an annual Support, and its natural tendency to draw the Officers of the Crown into a Dependence on the Assembly; in Answer to which they assure me in the most solemn manner, that they have not the least Thought or Inclination to invade or encroach on any of his Majesty's just and rightful Prerogatives; or to endeavour to wrest out of his Royal Hands, any part of the executive Power of Government, by the nomination and appointment of Officers; or in any other respect whatsoever. Page 52. of their Proceedings there is a formal Disclaimer, of some of their former Proceedings, which may be at any time hereafter objected to them, if they should again renew their old pretensions: But they would not depart from the annual Support, and sent up to the Council two Bills, one, for paying and discharging several Debts due from the Colony to the Persons therein mentioned; And the other, for the Payment of the Salaries and Services therein mentioned to the first day of September 1755, which still remain before the Council, Copies of which are now sent by your Lordships. The Difference between this and former Bills for payment of Debts is that the Assembly before used to make the Money payable upon Bonds, which is now left to be drawn out by Warrant

of the Assembly's Naming as before

in their Resolution of supporting the Government only from year to year, I lay me under great Difficulties. I have been and am at a very great Expence, and all this while without Salary, and how I shall subsist my self I know not, unless your Lordships would be pleased to think of some Method to relieve me from them, by recommending my Case to his Majesty, or otherwise as may be most proper.

In consideration of the wretched and ruinous Condition of the Fortifications, and the defenceless State of the Province, I offered to the Assembly to give my Assent to an Act for striking Paper Money, for putting the Province in a posture of defence, and reuniting the Indians in their fidelity to his Majesty, if they would frame the Bill conformable to the Directions received from your Lordships; their Answer to this Proposal will be found in their Address to me page 52, 53. of the printed Votes. This Address was presented to me by the whole House, and I answered it as in pages 58. 59. upon which they the next day came to the Resolutions in page 60, 61: so that I am, my Lords, in the greatest perplexity imaginable, not knowing how to act in this critical Situation of Affairs.

I must not omit to inform your Lordships that upon my sending the Message which is in page 45 to the Assembly, with an Extract of a

Letter

Letter of the 5th of July from Sir Thomas Robinson, recommending to them to enable me to build a Fort on Hudsons River for the defence of the Northern Frontier; they desire me to take order for erecting such Fort, and engage to devise some meanes for defraying the defence in general, and afterwards stage to limit it to the sum of £ 600: which tho a small sum in itself, yet is too much to come out of Pockets already well emptied, for I must either advance or engage my Credit for this sum, or the Work must be left undone.

Mr Kennedy his Majesty's Receiver General Delivered me a Memorial setting forth the Difficulties in collecting the Quit Rents, and pointing out a Method for the more easy and speedy recovery of the same, a Copy of which I ordered to be laid before the Council and Assembly, and a Bill was brought in for that purpose, but was not so far compleated as to be past the Council, but will I suppose be taken up at the next Meeting, and then finished and past, by which means the Collection of his Majesty's Rents will be greatly facilitated, and that Revenue regularly gathered in. I send the Naval Officers Accounts as he has delivered them to me. The Treasurer has not yet sent me his in, but I believe your Lordships will have a more distinct knowledge of the publick Accounts from the State that is published in the Votes of the Assembly, than from any of the Treasurers own drawing. The Accounts were examined and stated by the

Before

Representatives of the City of New York, who are by a former Act appointed Commissioners for this purpose, and are good Accountants, and had the light and perusal of the Treasurers Books.

I have now given my Assent to twelve Acts, which are put up in a Box (addressed to your Lordships) with one passed at the former Meeting, and the Minutes of Council from the 28th May to the 18th December 1751, and the Journal of the Councils proceedings in the present Session.

Only two of the Acts require any thing to be said on them.

The Act "to prevent malicious Informations in the Supreme Court of Judicature for the Colony of New York" is framed from an Act passed in the 4 and 5 years of William and Mary; only, instead of excepting Informations by his Majesty's Attorney General, in this, to preserve the King's Prerogative, there is a Proviso, that it shall not extend to Informations exhibited by Order of the Governor in Council, or by Order of the Supreme Court. Attorney Generals in this Province have frequently filed Informations upon trifling Grounds, at the Desire of contentious Persons, which upon Tryal have appeared to be vexatious and frivolous. This gave Occasion to the Act— I sent, before the Bill came up to me, to M[illegible] his Majesty's Attorney General to know if he had any thing to object to the Bill, he sent answer by his Son, that he would apply

home

home against it.

The other Act is "to empower Justices of the Peace to try Causes from forty Shillings to five pounds." The Justices by a former Law had Power to try Causes as far as forty Shillings: This gives them a larger Power, and tho they generally are Persons not well qualified for such a Trust, yet as the Act provides that either Party may demand a Jury to try the Cause before the Justice, I apprehend there cannot be any very great inconvenience in the Act, as it is to continue but for three years. I am

My Lords

Your Lordships

most obedient & most humble Servant

James Delancey

New York

Letter from James Delancey Esq.r Lieu.t Gov.r of New York, dated y.e 15.th of Dec.br 1754. acquainting the Board with the present State of Affairs in that Province, & transmitting several publick Papers, viz.t

Rec.d Febr.y
Read March } 1755.

K.K. 40

New York

Minutes of Council, from y.e 28.th of May to y.e 18.th of Decem.r } 1754:

Journal of the Council in a Session of y.e Assembly begun y.e 20.th of August 1754, to the 7.th of Decem.r following.

Printed Votes of y.e Gen.l Assembly from y.e 20.th of August 1754. to the 7.th of Dec.br following.

Eight Naval Office Lists of Ships Entered & Cleared from y.e 10.th of October 1753, to y.e 10.th of October 1754.

An Act passed at New York in August 1752 on y.e 7.th of Dec.br 1754.

6 Parts.

New York

TWO

REPORTS

OF

A COMMITTEE

OF

His Majesty's Council

FOR THE

Province of NEW-YORK,

RELATING

To the Controverted Line between that Province, and *New-Jersey*.

Dated in March & Dec.r 1754.

Published by Order of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, in Council.

NEW-YORK:

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Rec.d Feb.ry 2d 1755.
With Lieu.t Gov.r De Lancey's Lett.r
dated y.e 15.th of Dec.br 1754.

To the Honourable JAMES DE LANCEY, *Esq; His Majesty's Leiutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over the Province of* NEW-YORK, *and Territories depending thereon in* AMERICA.

May it please Your Honour,

IN Obedience to your Honour's Order in Council, on the Thirty-first Day of *January* last, mentioning two Letters from his Excellency Governor BELCHER of *New-Jersey*, relating to the Disputes between Persons living on the Borders of the two Governments, concerning their Lands; and that he should be glad that amicable and conciliating Measures might be concerted and fallen upon by both Governments, that the Borderers might be easy till his Majesty's Pleasure should be known in this Matter: Mentioning also a Memorial laid before the said Governor by the Council of Proprietors of *New-Jersey*, respecting the said Dispute: And also a Letter from some Justices of the Peace; and another Letter from the Sheriff of *Orange* County, relating to the Disputes between the Persons living on the Borders of this Province, and that of *New-Jersey*, and sundry Disturbances that had lately happened on the said Borders; signifying also the Opinion of your Honour and of his Majesty's Council of this Province, that it is absolutely necessary a Line of Peace should be fixed and agreed on by the two Governments, to prevent any future Disputes or Disorders between the Inhabitants of both Provinces, until the Controversy should be settled in a legal Course: And referring to us as a Committee of his Majesty's Council of this Province, to examine into the Claims of the Patentees of *Minisink* and *Wawayanda*, respecting the Premises; and to report our Opinion where such Line of Peace should be fixed; and further to make Enquiry into the said Disturbances; and to report to your Honour our Opinion as to what we think proper to be done thereupon:

We therefore, having examined the Claims of the said Patentees of *Minisink* and *Wawayanda*, and made diligent Enquiry concerning the late Disturbances, do humbly report to your Honour,

That the Province of *New-Jersey* was originally Part of this Province of *New-York*, and that the Rights of that Province depend upon Grants of his Majesty King CHARLES the Second, to his Brother the Duke of YORK, (afterwards King JAMES the Second,) and from the said Duke of YORK to JOHN Lord BERKLEY, and Sir GEORGE CARTARET, under whom the Persons called the Proprietors of *East* and *West Jersey* claim.

That we do not take upon ourselves to determine the Limits and Boundary of the Lands granted as aforesaid, which appear to us to have been long controverted, but most humbly submit it to his Majesty, (who in Right of his Crown is greatly concerned in that Dispute) to determine it by such Method as to his Majesty shall seem most proper. But as a Line of Peace appears to your Honour and to us to be absolutely necessary to be fixed and settled with all possible Speed, in order to prevent any further Breach of the publick Peace by the Borderers on the disputed Line, we beg Leave to inform your Honour;

That a Line was agreed to some Time in the Year 1686, between THOMAS DONGAN, Esq; then Governor of *New-York*, and the Governor of *New-Jersey*, to be run from a certain Place on *Hudson*'s River due West from *Frederick Philipse*'s lower Mills, and to extend from thence to certain marked Trees on *Delaware* River: But we do not find that the said Line has ever been actually run, nor has the exact Place where those marked Trees then stood, hitherto appeared to us with sufficient Proof: Nevertheless we find,

That

That after that Line had been agreed to, a Line was thereupon ſuppoſed to be a Diviſion Line fixing the Juriſdiction of the two Governments, and was ſuppoſed to extend from that Place on *Hudſon*'s River, to the Southward of *Great* and *Little Miniſink*, thence croſſing the Eaſt Branch of *Delaware* River, to the Weſt Branch thereof, where the ſaid marked Trees ſtood. And in Conſequence thereof, great Part of the vacant Lands between *Hudſon*'s River and the ſaid Eaſt Branch, were long before the Year 1719, granted by Letters Patents under the Great Seal of this Province, as Lands within the ſame; and ſo bounded as by expreſs Terms or neceſſary Implication to extend Southerly to ſuch ſuppoſed Partition Line; among which are the Patents of *Wawayanda* and *Miniſink*.

We alſo find that his Majeſty's Subjects inhabiting within the Province of *New-York*, have at divers Times ſince the Year 1686, made Settlements bordering on the ſaid ſuppoſed Line, and have always ſince paid their Taxes, and performed their Duties in the Militia of this Province; enjoyed their Priviledges in choice of Repreſentatives in General Aſſembly, and of other Officers; and many of them have ſerved in Civil and Military Offices; and have had the Protection of this Government as holding their Poſſeſſions within the ſame conformable to ſuch ſuppoſed Partition Line.

And that this Province claimed and exerciſed Juriſdiction to ſuch ſuppoſed Partition Line alſo appears,

1*ſt*, By an Act paſſed in the 3d Year of King WILLIAM and Queen MARY, 1691, "to divide this Province and Dependencies into Shires and Counties," in which the County of *Orange* is declared "to begin from the Limits and Bounds of *Eaſt* and *Weſt-Jerſey* on the "Weſt Side of *Hudſon*'s River, along the ſaid River to the Murderers Creek, or Bounds of "the County of *Ulſter*, and Weſtward into the Woods as far as *Delaware* River."

2*dly*, By an Act of the 13th of King WILLIAM, 1701: "For the more regular Proceed-"ings in the Elections of Repreſentatives for the ſeveral Cities and Counties within this "Province;" In which it is declared, that Diſputes had ariſen between the Counties of *Orange* and *Ulſter* relating to *Wagachemack*, and *Great* and *Little Miniſink*, and therefore thoſe Places are by this Act annexed to the County of *Ulſter*, until the Bounds between the Counties of *Orange* and *Ulſter* ſhould be ſettled: And the Inhabitants of thoſe Places were thereby empowered to give their Votes for Repreſentatives in the County of *Ulſter*.

3*dly*, By an Act of the 8th of Queen ANNE 1709, "to ſettle and aſcertain the Bounds "and Limits of the County of *Orange*," whereby it was Enacted, "That the County of "*Orange* ſhould extend from the Limits and Confines of the Province of *New-Jerſey* on the "Weſt Side of *Hudſon*'s River, along the ſaid River to the Line of the County of *Ulſter*, "and Weſtward as far as *Delaware* River."

And as at the Time of paſſing theſe Acts, there was no Line of Diviſion between the two Provinces that we know of, except that of 1686; we conclude that this muſt have been the Line which the Legiſlature of this Province eſteemed the Limits of the two Governments.

We do not find that the Government of *New-Jerſey* did make any Pretentions to the Juriſdiction of, or that the Proprietors of *New-Jerſey* did claim any right to, any Lands beyond the ſaid ſuppoſed Line, for upwards of thirty Years after the ſame was agreed to as aforeſaid. But of late Years we find that the ſaid Proprietors of *New-Jerſey* have made many Encroachments; and that that Government hath extended its Juriſdiction to the Northward of ſuch ſuppoſed Partition Line, by Virtue of ſundry Pretences of Right, which appear to us to be very detrimental to the Intereſt of his Majeſty, and the juſt Right of his Subjects within this Province: Which have been the Cauſe of much Diſorder and the frequent Breach of the publick Peace. And more ſuch Miſchiefs are likely to enſue unleſs effectual Meaſures be ſpeedily taken to prevent them.

Particularly we find,

1*ſt*. That Breaches of the Peace are frequently committed by Perſons inhabiting near the Borders of the ſaid diſputed Line, which take their Riſe from the claſhing and interfering of the Juriſdiction claimed and exerciſed by both Governments.

2*dly*, That the Juſtices of the Peace of both Provinces, have been apprehended and committed to Goal, for executing the Authority which they derived from their reſpective Governments.

3*dly*, That the Borderers frequently ouſt each other from their reſpective Poſſeſſions.

All which Acts are attended with Force and Violence on both Sides; and as theſe Diſorders ariſe from the late Extenſion of Poſſeſſion and Juriſdiction on the Part of *New-Jerſey*, ſeveral Miles within this Province, farther Northward than the Line agreed to as aforeſaid in the Year

Year 1686; there is no Reaſon to hope from any thing that appears to us, that they will ceaſe, till at leaſt ſome Temporary Line or Limit be ſet to the Juriſdictions and Authority of both Governments.

As to the long Memorial laid before Governor BELCHER by the Council of Proprietors, which ſeems to aim at eſtabliſhing the Line of 1719, we did not think it neceſſary to conſider the numerous Particulars thereof at preſent; inaſmuch as by the Copy of a Report from the Lords Commiſſioners of Trade to his Majeſty, dated the 18th Day of *July* laſt, upon the Act of Aſſembly of *New-Jerſey* paſſed in 1747-8, (which your Honour was pleaſed to lay before the Council for the Peruſal of this Committee) We find that their Lordſhips, after having heard the Sollicitors and Council on both Sides, repreſent to his Majeſty, that it appears to them, Governor HUNTER ought not to have iſſued his Commiſſion for running that Line, without having previouſly received the Royal Direction and Inſtruction for that purpoſe; and that a Commiſſion iſſued without ſuch Authority, can be conſidered with reſpect to the Intereſts of the Crown, in no other Light than as a *meer Nullity*. And in the Concluſion of the ſaid Report their Lordſhips declare, That as the Act in Queſtion could not be effectual to the Ends propoſed; that his Majeſty's Intereſt might be materially affected by it; and that the Proceedings on which it was founded, were not warranted in the firſt Inſtance by proper Authority, but carried on without the Participation of the Crown; they could not think it adviſable to lay the ſame before his Majeſty, as fit to receive his Royal Approbation.

Upon the whole we are humbly of Opinion.

1ſt, That as great Numbers of Freeholders and Inhabitants hold their Lands under Grants from this Province, long before the Year 1719, ſo far Southward as the Line in 1686, they ſhould and ought to be protected by this Government in the quiet Enjoyment of their Poſſeſſions.

2dly, That your Honour be pleaſed to ſignify to Governor BELCHER the utmoſt Willingneſs, on the Part of this Government, to do every thing in its Power to give eaſe to the Borderers on the reſpective Provinces, conſiſtent with the juſt Rights of the Crown and the Inhabitants of this Province; and to join with that Government in running a Temporary Line of Juriſdiction and Peace, conformable to the ſaid Line agreed on in the Year 1686: And that your Honour be pleaſed alſo to ſignify to Governor BELCHER, your Readineſs to concert Meaſures with him for this Purpoſe.

3dly, That your Honour be pleaſed, on the Part of this Government, to declare the utmoſt Readineſs to join with that Government, in the ſpeedieſt Application to his Majeſty, to authorize and direct the Settlement of a true Partition Line between both Provinces.

And laſtly, If the Government of *New-Jerſey* ſhall agree to the running ſuch Line of Peace, That your Honour do recommend to the General Aſſembly at their next Meeting, to provide for the one Half of the Expence thereof: And if that Government will join with this, in an Application to his Majeſty for the final Settlement of a Partition Line between the two Provinces, then alſo to provide for the one Half of the Expence that may attend the ſame.

All which is nevertheleſs humbly ſubmitted.

By Order of the Committee,

New-York,
1ſt March, 1754.

JOS. MURRAY,
Chairman.

(7)

To the Honourable JAMES DE LANCEY, *Esq;* *His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over the Province of* NEW-YORK, *and Territories depending thereon in* AMERICA.

May it please Your Honour,

IN Obedience to Your Honour's several Orders in Council, of the 13th *March*, 4th *April*, 25th *July*, 7th and 16th *September*, 14th and 26th *November* last, referring to us the several Letters and Papers therein mentioned, *viz.* The Reasons offered by Mr. ALEXANDER, for his Dissent to our Report of the 4th of *March* last: The Request of the Proprietors of *New-Jersey*, signified by Mr. ALEXANDER, for Copies of the Proofs upon which we grounded our said Report: The Petition of the Patentees of *Minisink* and *Wawayanda*, of the 25th of *July* last: A Letter from his Excellency Governor BELCHER, of the 27th *August* last; accompanied with a Representation of the Council of Proprietors of *East-New-Jersey* of the 20th; and an Order of his said Excellency in Council on the 22d, referring the said Representation to a Committee of his Majesty's Council of the Province of *New-Jersey*, and their Report thereupon of the 23d of the same Month: Two Letters from Governor BELCHER, of the 3d *May*, and 12th *September* last: A Message from the General Assembly of this Province, to your Honour, of the 8th ult. with a Report of a Committee of that House on the 29th *October* preceding, and sundry Affidavits: And two Letters from Governor BELCHER of the 23d ult. with Copies of the Advice of his Majesty's Council of *New-Jersey*; and a Letter, or Order to Col. *Van Camp*, of the same Date: All which relate to the Controversy between the two Provinces, with respect to the Partition Line, and the Disturbances that have happened among the Borderers, concerning the different Claims of Jurisdiction and Property: We have duly weighed and considered of the same. And as to such Matters contained in the said Papers, as we conceive require any Answer,

We humbly beg Leave to report unto your Honour as follows.

To begin with Governor BELCHER's said Letter of the Twenty-seventh Day of *August* last, we observe,

1*st*, That the said Letter is entirely evasive, and contains no direct Answer to the Offers and Proposals made by your Honour on the Part of this Government, to the Government of *New-Jersey*, and humbly recommended by us, in our said Report of the Fourth of *March* last, wherein we reported our Opinion, "That your Honour would be pleased to signify to "Governor BELCHER, the utmost Willingness on the Part of this Government, to do every "Thing in its Power to give Ease to the Borderers on the respective Provinces, consistent "with the just Rights of the Crown, and the Inhabitants of this Province; and to join with "that Government in running a Temporary Line of Jurisdiction and Peace, conformable to "the Stations agreed on in the Year 1686; and also to signify to Governor BELCHER, your "Readiness to concert Measures with him for that Purpose: And further on the Part of this "Government, to declare the utmost Readiness to join with that Government, in the speediest "Application to his Majesty, to authorize and direct the Settlement of a true Partition Line "between both Provinces." And that Governor BELCHER, in not answering to the said Proposals, has frustrated the good Intentions of the Government of this Province in those Particulars.

2*dly*, That the following Words in Governor BELCHER's said Letter, of the Twenty-seventh of *August* last, (*viz.*) "I say upon the whole, if the Government of *New-York*, will not "fall into mild and peaceable Measures, I mean into a Temporary Line, or *Nolle Prosequis*, "I must in Duty to his Majesty, and in a just and tender Regard to the People under my "Care, do all in my Power for supporting his Majesty's Honour and Interest, and the Happiness and Tranquility of the People of *New-Jersey*; and if finally this Affair should be "attended with fatal Consequences, our Superiors will judge who have been culpable or "contributed

" contributed thereunto;" give us great Surprize, as they carry in them a threatning Aſpect, and tend to deſtroy that Union between the two Provinces, which his Majeſty's Intereſt in, and the Welfare of the Inhabitants of the ſame, neceſſarily require.

3*dly*, That the ſaid menacing Paſſage of Governor BELCHER's ſaid Letter, moſt ſtrongly inſinuates that the Government of this Province, has wilfully avoided to " fall into mild and " peaceable Meaſures, and the Settlement of a Temporary Line."

4*thly*, That ſuch Inſinuation as aforeſaid, is evidently groundleſs and unjuſt; eſpecially as the firſt Advances towards " mild and peaceable Meaſures, and the Settlement of a Tem- " porary Line," were made by the Government of this Province, by your Honour's ſaid Letter of the Fifteenth of *March* laſt, and our ſaid Report of the Fourth of the ſaid Month, and treated with great Neglect by the Government of *New-Jerſey*.

5*thly*, That ſuch Conduct on the Part of the Government of *New-Jerſey*, manifeſtly tends to obſtruct ſuch " mild and peaceable Meaſures, and the prudent and legal Methods to " preſerve Peace and Quiet among his Majeſty's Subjects," which have lately been recommended in the ſtrongeſt Terms, by the Right Honourable the Lords Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations, both to your Honour, and Governor BELCHER.

And as to the ſaid Repreſentation of *the Perſons who ſtile themſelves, the Council of Proprietors of the Eaſtern Diviſion of the Province of* New-Jerſey; and the Report of the Committee of the Council of that Province: We obſerve in general, That it does not appear to us, that your Honour's ſaid Letter, and our ſaid Report, were ever referred by Governor BELCHER, or by Order in Council, either to a Committee of his Majeſty's Council of *New-Jerſey*, or to the ſaid Perſons, who call themſelves, the Proprietors of the Eaſtern Diviſon of that Province; nor how the ſame fell under their Conſideration: ſaving only, that Mr. ALEXANDER informed your Honour, that our ſaid Report had been referred to the abovementioned Council of Proprietors; and they in their Repreſentation ſay, that the ſaid Report and Letter, were referred to them: However, we ſhall proceed to obſerve more particularly,

1*ſt*, That the Government of this Province, cannot take Notice of the above mentioned *private* Perſons, by whatever Name they may think proper to diſtinguiſh themſelves: Neither do we conceive, that the *Repreſentation of private Perſons*, relating to Matters of Government between the two Provinces, (however important it may ſeem to Governor BELCHER, and altho' it be recommended in his ſaid Letter of the Twenty-ſeventh of *Auguſt* laſt, to your Honour's Conſideration) can properly merit the Notice of the Government of this Province. But,

2*dly*, As the Government of *New-Jerſey*, has paid ſo great a Regard to theſe *private* Perſons, as to make their ſaid Repreſentation, a Part of the *Government Tranſactions* of that Province: We further beg Leave to obſerve, That the ſaid *private* Perſons, in their ſaid Repreſentation, fully prove that the Government of *New-Jerſey*, inſtead of taking into Conſideration your Honour's ſaid Letter, and our ſaid Report, (which we conceive contained Matters worthy of their Attention,) ſuffered them to fall into the Hands of thoſe *private* Perſons, who, tho' they aſſume the Stile and Title abovementioned, have never, as we can diſcover, been authorized by his Majeſty, to aſſume any Share of the publick Adminiſtration, or Government of that Province.

3*dly*, That therefore, notwithſtanding the Variety of evaſive Arguments, and pretended Matters of Fact alledged and contained in the ſaid Repreſentation, your Honour's ſaid Letter, and our above mentioned Report, remain to this Day, unanſwered by the Government of *New-Jerſey*; unleſs the ſame ſhould appear to be anſwered, by the above remembred Report of the Committee of his Majeſty's Council of the Province of *New-Jerſey*.

4*thly*, That ſuch Reference as aforeſaid to private Perſons, in an Affair wherein the Crown of *Great-Britain*, and the Peace of both Governments are ſo evidently concerned, argues in the Government of *New-Jerſey*, a great Neglect of his Majeſty's Rights and Intereſt committed to their Care; and is inconſiſtent with the Relation they bear to his Majeſty, to whoſe Authority the Governments of both Provinces are immediately ſubordinate.

5*thly*, That altho' the Committee of his Majeſty's Council of *New-Jerſey*, in their Report of the Twenty-third of *Auguſt* laſt, are pleaſed to ſay, " They have conſidered the Report " of the Council of *New-York* of *March* the Fourth, and your Honour's ſaid Letter to their " Governor therewith, of *March* Fifteenth, together with a Repreſentation of the Council " of Proprietors of *Eaſt-New-Jerſey* concerning the ſame, and find no Impertinence nor " Indecency in the ſaid Repreſentation; and were of Opinion that the ſeveral Queſtions and " Explanations therein requeſted to be anſwered, and made by your Honour and the Council " of this Province, are proper and reaſonable, *&c.*" Yet we beg Leave to differ in Sentiment on that Head from thoſe honourable Gentlemen of his Majeſty's Council, and take Leave to declare, That in our Opinion there are many Impertinences and Indecencies in the ſaid Repreſentation,

ſentation; and that the ſaid Proprietors had not any Right or Authority to aſk of your Honour, or this Board, the ſeveral Queſtions and Explanations therein mentioned.

6*thly*, We further conceive, That it would have been proper for the Government of *New-Jerſey*, to give a direct Anſwer to the abovementioned Propoſal of this Government, relating to the fixing of a Temporary Line agreeable to the Stations of 1686; and to enquire whether or no ſuch Temporary Line, would be conformable to the ancient continued and reputed Juriſdictions of the two Provinces. For if the Government of this Province, has held and exerciſed an ancient continued and reputed Juriſdiction, as far Southward or South Weſtward as to a direct Line between thoſe Stations, till the late Incroachments of *New-Jerſey*, as is inſiſted on in our ſaid Report, it clearly follows, that as the two contending Provinces, are equal and diſtinct in their reſpective Juriſdictions, (neither having a Power over the other,) each Government ought therefore to continue in the Exerciſe of its ancient Juriſdiction, until his Majeſty ſhall be pleaſed finally to determine the Controverſy. Whence we conceive,

7*thly*, That both the ſaid private Perſons who call themſelves the Council of Proprietors, and the ſaid Committee of the Council of *New-Jerſey*, inſtead of inſiſting upon the Place where, by the Conſtruction of the *New-Jerſey* Grants, the ſaid Line ought to be run; or that the Line of 1719 was run by proper Authority, conformable to the ſaid Grants; or contending that no Stations were fixed in the Year 1686; or if they were, demanding the Evidence of ſuch Stations, or that the Claimers of the controverted Lands on the Part of this Province ſhould be compelled to produce ſuch Evidence in Support of the ſaid Stations; or that a great Part of the Lands in Controverſy to the Northward or Northeaſtward of the ſaid Stations, are held by *private* Titles, under the ſaid *private* Perſons, and many other Matters of equal Importance; all which we conceive are nothing to the Purpoſe, if the Government of this Province has exerciſed an ancient and continued Juriſdiction as far Southward, or Southweſtward as the Places where thoſe Stations are ſaid to have been fixed: We ſay, that inſtead of inſiſting on theſe Matters, which are the Subject of the ſaid Repreſentation and Report, the Government of *New-Jerſey*, in Anſwer to your Honour's ſaid Letter, and our ſaid Report, ſhould either have denied that ſuch has been the ancient and continued Juriſdiction of this Province, as was inſiſted on in our ſaid Report, or ſhould have confeſſed ſuch Juriſdiction; and in Order to render it, and conſequently the Juriſdiction of *New-Jerſey* the more certain and determinate, ſhould have conſented to the running of a Temporary Line, conformable to ſuch ancient and continued Juriſdiction, or in other Words, agreeable to the Places where the ſaid Stations of 1686, are ſaid to have been fixed; as was propoſed by our Report. Which we conceive to be the more neceſſary, becauſe,

8*thly*, That ſome certain Temporary Limits to the two Provinces, are abſolutely neceſſary to preſerve Peace among the Borderers; and becauſe we conceive that the Governments of the reſpective Provinces, have no Power (without his Majeſty's particular Directions,) to agree to any other Temporary Line, than ſuch as will be conſiſtent with their reſpective ancient and continued Juriſdictions, it being inconſiſtent with the Duty of either Government, to cede any Part of ſuch their Juriſdiction, in the Settlement of a Temporary Line, without ſuch Directions as aforeſaid for that Purpoſe.

9*thly*, We are of Opinion, That as on the Part of the Government of *New-York*, it hath been aſſerted and proved by Acts of Aſſembly, and otherwiſe, that this Government hath held and exerciſed Juriſdiction as far Southward as the Stations of 1686; and the ſame hath not been denied by the Government of *New-Jerſey*, therefore it ought to be taken to be true. And we further conceive, that their Neglect to anſwer the Government of this Province, relating to thoſe Particulars, is owing to too great a Precipitancy in the Committee of his Majeſty's Council of *New-Jerſey*; or in other Words, to their not taking more Time well to weigh, and duly to conſider the ſaid Acts of Aſſembly, and the Reaſons given, and Propoſals made by us in our Report of the Fourth of *March* laſt, and in your Honour's Letter of the Fifteenth of the ſaid Month, and the ſeveral Matters contained in the ſaid Repreſentation: For it appears, that the ſaid Repreſentation was on the Twenty-ſecond Day of *Auguſt* laſt, referred to the Board of Council of *New-Jerſey*, or any Three of them, to conſider of the ſame, and to report their Opinion thereon, &c. And the very next Day, the Report of the Committee of the ſaid Board, on the ſeveral Matters referred, was delivered in to the Governor and Council of *New-Jerſey*, and approved of by them: And we conceive, it was hardly poſſible for the Committee of the Council of *New-Jerſey*, in ſo ſhort a Time, maturely to conſider of, and enquire into, the long Detail of diſputable Facts, and the ſeveral Matters referred to them, and to draw their Report thereon. And therefore,

10*thly*, That if finally this Affair ſhould be "attended with fatal Conſequences, our "Superiors (we conceive) will have the ſtrongeſt Reaſon to judge the Government of *New-*"*Jerſey* extremely culpable," in delaying the Settlement of a Temporary Line.

11*thly*,

11*thly*, We alſo conceive, that the particular Matters of the ſaid Repreſentation and Report, are calculated with a View to create a Delay in the Settlement of a Temporary Line, and that in ſuch a Manner, as to caſt the Blame upon the Government of this Province; and this we think appears from the Inſinuation in the ſaid Repreſentation and Report, that they cannot give any Anſwer relating to the Stations of 1686, until they are furniſhed with Copies of the Evidence in Support of the ſaid Stations: Notwithſtanding that from the Reaſons above alledged, it appears that the Authenticity of thoſe Stations, are not the preſent Matter in Queſtion between the two Governments; but only, whether or no the ancient Juriſdiction of this Government, doth extend as far Southward, or Southweſtward, as the Places where thoſe Stations are ſaid to have been fixed; and in particular, whether *Wagh-a-mack*, and *Great* and *Little Miniſinĕ*, (the Places which by the late Incroachments of *New-Jerſey*, have been wreſted from the Hands of this Government,) are included within ſuch ancient Juriſdiction: So that, as the ſaid Copies (were they furniſhed with them) could be of no Service to them in this particular Caſe, we do therefore conceive, that their pretended Inability to Anſwer the abovementioned Offers and Propoſals of this Government, without ſuch Copies, is urged purely as an Excuſe for their affected Delay in the Settlement of a Temporary Line. Whence alſo we obſerve,

12*thly*, That neither the Governor of *New-Jerſey*, nor the ſaid private Perſons, nor the Council of *New-Jerſey*, can have any Right to demand ſuch Copies; which are impertinent to what is really the Matter in Diſpute at preſent between the Governments of the two Provinces.

13*thly*, Neither (were ſuch Copies pertinent to the preſent Matter in Diſpute) do we conceive, that the Government of this Province has any Right to compel its Inhabitants to furniſh their Opponents with Copies of the private Evidences of their Titles: And if this Government had ſuch Right, we humbly conceive it would be unreaſonable to compel them to ſuch Diſcovery, *coram non judice*, viz. either before the Governor or Council of *New-Jerſey*, or thoſe private Perſons, who call themſelves the Council of Proprietors.

14*thly*, We humbly conceive, That notwithſtanding what is alledged in the ſaid Repreſentation and Report, it was the Duty of the Government of this Province, to do what they have done on the Part of this Province: And that it would have argued in the Government of this Province, an inexcuſable Neglect of his Majeſty's Intereſt, and of the Juriſdiction of this Province, had they referred the Controverſy to private Perſons; which however, it is inſinuated on the Part of *New-Jerſey*, they ought to have done. And we are alſo humbly of Opinion, that it would redound more to the Honour of the Government of *New-Jerſey* and to the Eaſe and Tranquility of both Provinces, were the private Claimers of the Lands, on the Part of *New-Jerſey*, denied that Participation in the Government Acts of *New-Jerſey*, relating to the preſent Controverſy, in which they are too much indulged and incouraged, as appears by their ſaid Repreſentation being made a Part of the public Tranſactions of that Government.

15*thly*, We further obſerve, That the Committee of the Council of *New-Jerſey* have taken very unwarrantable and indecent Liberties with the Council of *New-York*, too many to be enumerated. But one we think in Juſtice to ourſelves we cannot paſs by unnoticed, wherein they Charge us with "becoming Parties, by ſtating a new Caſe, and giving our Opinions thereon," *&c.* Whereas in our ſaid Report, we declared that we did not take upon ourſelves to determine the Limits and Boundaries of the Lands granted as aforeſaid, which appeared to us to be long controverted, but moſt humbly ſubmitted it to his Majeſty, who in Right of his Crown, is greatly concerned in that Diſpute, to determine it by ſuch Methods as to his Majeſty ſhould ſeem proper. But for ſettling a Line of Peace, we informed your Honour, what then appeared to us: And as to the Stating a new Caſe, as they call it, it is a great Miſtake; for the Caſe we ſtated, is the old Caſe of the ancient Juriſdiction of this Province from 1686, which is proved alſo by ſeveral Acts of Aſſembly of this Province mentioned in our ſaid Report, and yet no Notice is taken of either of the ſaid Acts by the Council of *New-Jerſey*. But the Caſe that they have ſtated, is new, being founded upon a Suppoſition that the Line of 1719, was the true Diviſion Line of the two Provinces; altho' that Line was in it ſelf a *meer Nullity*, as was declared by the ſaid Lords Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations, in their Report to his Majeſty relating thereto. Whence we conceived the Neceſſity of recurring to the Stations of 1686, or in other Words, to the ancient and continued Extent of the Juriſdiction of this Province, as the only Standard, (until his Majeſty ſhall be pleaſed to erect another,) for ſettling the Extent of Juriſdiction and Property between the two Provinces. Nor do we conceive, that the Government of this Province has erred in giving its Opinion for a Temporary Line, which we were obliged to do by the Duty of our Stations, as it is a Caſe, in which both the Honour and Intereſt of his Majeſty, and the Welfare of his Subjects committed to the Care of the Government of this Province, are moſt immediately concerned. And what Notice the Government of *New-Jerſey* did expect would have

have been taken by the Government of *New-York*, of the Complaints of *private Perſons*, as contained in the ſaid Memorial, eſpecially as they were ſo badly founded, as is above-mentioned, we cannot diſcover. But as it would in our Opinions, have reflected Diſhonour on the Government of this Province, had any Notice been taken of a Memorial of *private* Perſons belonging to *another* Province, relating to Matters of Government, and the Juriſdiction of *this* Province: So we humbly conceive, That the Government of this Province, has acted with a proper Dignity, in diſregarding the ſaid Memorial.

Tho' we could add many more Obſervations, on the Matters of Governor BELCHER's firſt mentioned Letter, and of the ſaid Repreſentation and Report, were thoſe Matters of any Moment or Significancy in the preſent Controverſy; yet there are ſundry Paſſages in the ſaid Report of the Committee of the Council of that Province, which we cannot properly obſerve upon, without infringing the Decency that is due from one Government to another. We hope however, that we have ſufficiently obſerved on them, to ſhew that the Government of *New-Jerſey* will neither confeſs, or deny, the aboveſaid Extent of the ancient and continued Juriſdiction of the Government of this Province; and have hitherto given no Anſwer to the above-mentioned Offers and Propoſals of the Government of this Province, relating to the running of a Temporary Line.

And as to the other Offer and Propoſal of the Government of this Province, of a joint Application to his Majeſty for obtaining a final Settlement of the Controverſy: We obſerve, that the Government of *New-Jerſey* has alſo been hitherto entirely ſilent relating thereto, except the Notice taken by the ſaid Report, of the Committee of the Council of *New-Jerſey*, of a private Propoſal, on the Part of *New-Jerſey*, to private Perſons, on the Part of *New-York*, prior to the ſaid Offer of this Government, can be conſidered as an Anſwer thereto. As to which private Propoſal, we obſerve, that it was of ſuch a Nature as rendered it impoſſible for thoſe to whom the ſaid Propoſal was made, conſidering the State of the Rights, on the Part of *New-York*, to enter into the Security that was propoſed by the private Perſons on the Part of *New-Jerſey*; and therefore, that the Propoſal was entirely uſeleſs.

Upon the whole of the above Obſervations, we do humbly report to your Honour, That the Government of *New-Jerſey*, either by the ſaid Firſt above-mentioned Letter of Governor BELCHER, or by the ſaid Repreſentation and Report, have made no Anſwer to the above ſaid Offers and Propoſals made by the Government of this Province to that Government; and that therefore, if any Riots have happened among the Borderers, ſince the making of the ſaid Offers and Propoſals, or if any Violence ſhould enſue, in Conſequence of a due Extenſion of the Juriſdiction of this Province: We are humbly of Opinion, they will all be chargeable to the Account of the Government of *New-Jerſey*; and doubt not but they will be ſo conſidered by our Superiors.

We come now to the Report of the Committee of the General Aſſembly of this Province; and do humbly report unto your Honour, That we have conſidered the ſame, and obſerve its Agreement with our Sentiments, relating to the Stations of 1686, and the Extent of this Province, both with reſpect to Juriſdiction and Property as far Southward as thoſe Stations.

We have alſo conſidered the ſeveral Affidavits with which it was attended, and the Meſſage of that Houſe, relating to both: And do thereupon humbly report unto your Honour, that ſince the above-mentioned Offers and Propoſals made by the Government of this Province to the Government of *New-Jerſey*, ſeveral moſt enormous Riots have been committed by the People of *New-Jerſey* within the Juriſdiction of this Province and particularly, the one mentioned in the ſaid Report of the Committee of the Houſe, to have been committed at the Houſe of Col. *Dean*, one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace in *Orange* County, within this Province. And we do alſo find by ſundry Peices of Evidence, lately produced to us ſince the ſaid Offers and Propoſals made by this Government, that Major *Jacobus Stewartnut*, another of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace in *Orange* County aforeſaid, has been apprehended, and for a long Time confined in a loathſome Goal within the Province of *New-Jerſey*, for Matters principally relating to the Controverſy between the two Provinces: For altho' he is ſued, as we are informed, in ſeveral Actions in which Bail is inſiſted upon in large Sums, yet all of them, except one, are brought againſt him by *New-Jerſey* Rioters, whom he from Time to Time had apprehended in the lawful Execution of his Authority, as one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace. And as the one Suit above-mentioned, (being on a private Contract of an old Standing) might long ago have been brought againſt him in this Province; we conceive that the ſame was brought in *New-Jerſey*, in Order to give colour to his Confinement, and deprive him of the Opportunity of getting Bail.

The next Thing which demands our Attention, is the extraordinary Conduct of the Government of *New-Jerſey*, in the two Letters of Governor BELCHER of the Twenty third of *November* laſt. And before we obſerve particularly upon them, we beg Leave to make one

general Remark. We have in our Opinions fully shewn that the Government of *New-Jersey*, have hitherto evaded giving any Answer to the Offers and Proposals made by the Government of this Province, in the Month of *March* last. This Conduct is indeed astonishing. But we are more surprized, that after a Silence of near nine Months, that Government at length instead of accepting or denying those Proposals, should issue Orders to their subordinate Officers, to exercise a Jurisdiction within the ancient Jurisdiction of this Province, and require the Compliance of this Government therein.

With regard to the Opinion of the Council of *New-Jersey* contained in one of the said Letters, we observe,

1*st*, That the Station of the Year 1686 on *Delaware*, appears from our said Report, and from the Report of the Committee of the General Assembly of this Province, to have been fixed at such a Place on *Delaware* River, as that a direct Line from the other Station on *Hudson*'s River, to the same, will include *Great* and *Little Minisink* and *Wighbamack*. Which Station on *Delaware*, appears to have been fixed on the then esteemed Northwardmost Branch of *Delaware*, and on such Part thereof as at that Time was found by the Surveyors of *East* and *West Jersey*, and *New-York*, to be in the Latitude of 41° and 40'. North. But whether or no that Place is so much lower, or less Northward than the Place which is pretended in the said Opinion, to have been found by the Observations in 1719, to be in the Latitude of 41° 40' North, we do not know: Neither do we think it at all Material. And we are the more surprized to observe, that the Government of *New-Jersey* will so repeatedly refer to the Line of 1719, instead of the ancient Jurisdiction of the two Provinces, when the said Line not only appears to be a random Line, as the Proprietors of *East-New-Jersey* call it to have been run without proper Authority, to be erroneous in itself, not assented to by all the Parties interested; but also to have been disapproved of by the Honourable Board of Trade and Plantations as a *meer Nullity*. And we conceive, That should the Government of *New-Jersey* drop its Pretensions to that Line, as the same was reported by the said Honourable Board to be unworthy of his Majesty's Royal Sanction, it would argue in that Government, a decent and reasonable Submission to the Reference of his Majesty to that Honourable Board, and to the Report of their Lordships, whom his Majesty has been pleased to commissionate for the Care and Inspection of Plantation Affairs.

2*dly*, That in whatever Light the Government of *New-Jersey* may consider the Conduct of the Assembly of this Province: We conceive, that they have acted as their their Duty to his Majesty, and the true Interests of the People they represent did require of them, in desiring your Honour to exercise the Jurisdiction of this Province as far Southward as to the Stations of 1686; because it evidently appears that such was the ancient and continued Jurisdiction of this Province: Which Jurisdiction, we humbly conceive, the Government of this Province cannot either retrench, or suffer to be encroached on, without counteracting it's Duty to his Majesty, and that Right of Protection which the People of this Province may justly Claim of the Government to which they are subject.

3*dly*, As the Committee of the Council of *New-Jersey*, have in the said Report charged the Government of this Province with becoming Parties to the Controversy, we are the more surprized, that the Government of *New-Jersey* should enter into an Inquiry of the private Titles to the controverted Lands, and suffer such Matters to influence the Government Transactions of that Province: For to us it appears that nothing of that Kind ought to have any Weight in determining the Temporary Extent of the respective Jurisdictions of the two Provinces; the sole Matter of Inquiry being, how far the Governments of both Provinces have hitherto exercised Jurisdiction. And as it has been asserted on the Part of this Province, and not denied by the Government of *New-Jersey*, and is undeniably true in itself, that the Government of this Province, has, till the late Encroachments of *New-Jersey*, held and exercised Jurisdiction so far Southward, or Southwestward as the Places where the Stations of 1686 are said to have been fixed: We are of Opinion, That this Province is entitled to a Temporary Line, or in other Words, to its ancient Jurisdiction agreable to those Stations, notwithstanding it is pretended that many Persons who hold under *New-Jersey* Titles, will thereby be included within the Jurisdiction of this Province. And if the Proprietors of *East-New-Jersey*, have granted Lands within the ancient Jurisdiction of this Province, which they ought not to have done; such Grants can never be a sufficient Reason to excuse the Government of this Province to his Majesty, for retrenching its ancient Jurisdiction, in order to leave the People holding under such Titles within the Jurisdiction of *New-Jersey*.

4*thly*, As to the Pretence of the great Number of Settlements under *New-Jersey* Titles upon the controverted Lands, we are of Opinion, that most of those Settlements (which have been made of late Years) were designed purely to facilitate the Encroachments of *New-Jersey* on this Province: And therefore do humbly conceive, That in Order to prevent the evil Intent of those Settlements, the Government of this Province ought most vigorously to assert

its

its ancient Jurisdiction. Neither do we conceive, That those Settlements so unjustly made, can by any Means intitle the Persons holding them to the Protection of the Government of *New-Jersey*. That such was the Design of the said Settlements, as is above-mentioned, appears from this, That it is as we have been informed, the daily Practice of the Proprietors of *East New-Jersey*, to take up all the Lands in Controversy they possibly can, and grant them to any Persons whatsoever, who are willing to accept of a Term for Years, of 99 Acres, or some other particular Quantity of Land, and a Freehold in one Acre in the Hundred; in Order to make such Persons Freeholders of the New County called *Sussex*, lately erected in *New-Jersey*; a great Part of which extends Northwardly within the ancient Jurisdiction of this Province.

5*thly*, We conceive, That the Government of this Province, has been extremly forbearing, notwithstanding the many Insults offered to it by the Province of *New-Jersey*. And are therefore astonished that the Council of that Province, should pretend they have Reason to expect one or more Invasions from the People of *New-York*, who, as far as we can discover, have never extended their Possessions beyond the ancient Jurisdiction of this Province; neither could they possibly receive any Encouragement from the Government of this Province, should they attempt to do it: And therefore the Directions given by Governor BELCHER to Col. *Vancamp*, and the other Civil and Military Officers of *Sussex* County, under such Pretence of Danger, as they necessarily tend to abridge the ancient Jurisdiction of this Province, and are founded on meer Pretence; ought not to be regarded by the Government of this Province. And we do humbly conceive, That the Government of this Province, instead of giving the like Directions to the Civil and Military Officers of *Orange* County, is, by such the Conduct on the Part of *New-Jersey*, necessarily constrained to exercise its ancient Jurisdiction with all possible Vigour.

As to the other Letter from Governor BELCHER to your Honour of the same Date, we are fully of Opinion with him, that a Compliance with the Directions of the Honourable Board of Trade and Plantations is absolutely necessary. But we conceive, That the Method proposed by Governor BELCHER, is impracticable in itself, and inconsistent with the Honour of his Majesty's Government of this Province, and the abovementioned Directions of the said Honourable Board.

It is impossible in itself,

1*st*. Because there are many Persons, as we have been informed, who have been obliged to purchase Peace of the Proprietors of *East-New-Jersey*, by accepting of Titles under them; which Persons still esteem themselves to be subject to the Government of *New-York*. It would therefore be absurd to suppose that the Government of this Province, should join with that of *New-Jersey*, in compelling those Persons to submit to that Government.

2*dly*, Because should the present Temporary Jurisdiction of the two Provinces, be limited to the Settlements held by Title under them respectively, such Jurisdiction would be continually varying: For if the People of *New-Jersey*, should continue to take into Possession the Lands in Controversy, which they might still do, notwithstanding such Settlement of Jurisdiction as aforesaid, the Jurisdiction of that Province would be continually increasing.

3*dly*, Should the Temporary Jurisdictions of the Provinces be settled in the Manner proposed by Governor BELCHER, as it would give the Proprietors of *East-New-Jersey* an Opportunity of taking into Possession the unimproved Lands in Controversy, and so *vice versa* (from opposing which, the Governments of both Provinces would absolutely be prevented by such Settlement of Jurisdiction) so this Inconvenience ought, we humbly conceive, to be particularly guarded against; especially as it has been the notorious and publicly avowed Practice of the Proprietors of *East-New-Jersey*, and their Agents, ever since the Controversy has subsisted, to take into Possession as much of the unimproved Lands in Controversy, as they possibly could. And we have great Reason to fear, that this is the very End proposed by the Offer made of settling, for the present, the Temporary Jurisdiction of the two Provinces, in the Manner mentioned in Governor BELCHER's said Letter.

That should the proposed Settlement of a Temporary Jurisdiction take place, it would reflect Dishonour on his Majesty's Government of this Province, will sufficiently appear by considering, that such Settlement must necessarily abridge the ancient and continued Jurisdiction of this Province: For if what is alledged on the Part of *New-Jersey* be true (which however we do deny) it is certain that many Possessions within such ancient and continued Jurisdiction, are held by pretended Titles under *New-Jersey*; which Possessions, should such Settlement take Place, would be immediately discharged from the Jurisdiction of this Province, and be subjected to that of *New-Jersey*. Which abridgement of the ancient Jurisdiction of this Province, we humbly conceive, would be dishonourable in the Government thereof to consent to.

Neither

Neither do we conceive, That ſuch Settlement of the Temporary Juriſdiction of the two Provinces would be conſiſtent with the Directions of the ſaid Honourable Board of Trade and Plantations; Becauſe it would not, for the Reaſons abovementioned, tend to preſerve Peace and Quiet among his Majeſty's Subjects reſiding on, and claiming the controverted Lands; which however appears to us, to be the Deſign of the ſaid Directions.

And we do further conceive, That ſhould the Governments of the two Provinces, take upon them to make the propoſed Settlement of a new Temporary Juriſdiction, they would aſſume what by the ſaid Directions is apparently reſerved to be done by his Majeſty.

Whence upon the whole it appears to us to be neceſſary, that both Governments ſhould join in ſupporting the ancient and continued Juriſdiction of the two Provinces: Which, on the Part of this Province, appears to be as far Southward as the Places where the Stations of 1686 are ſaid to have been fixed. But, as the Government of *New-Jerſey*, have not hitherto confeſſed or denied ſuch ancient Juriſdiction as aforeſaid in this Province, but in the Room thereof has propoſed a new and impoſſible Settlement of a Temporary Juriſdiction, which the Government of this Province cannot, we think, comply with for the Reaſons abovementioned; and as many fatal Conſequences daily follow, from the Want of reducing the ancient Juriſdiction of this Province to an exact Preciſion, by running a Line conformable thereto;

We do therefore heartily join with the General Aſſembly of this Province, and are humbly of Opinion, That it is neceſſary that your Honour uſe the beſt Means in your Power for protecting his Majeſty's Subjects of this Province, and their Poſſeſſions, from the daily Inſults and Outrages committed againſt them by the People of *New-Jerſey*; and to exercite the Juriſdiction of this Province, ſo far Southward as to a direct Line between the the ſaid Stations of the Year 1686, until a final Settlement can be made, and his Majeſty ſhall be pleaſed to declare his Pleaſure, with reſpect to the future Juriſdiction of both Provinces.

And this we are humbly of Opinion, may be beſt done in the following Manner:

1*ſt*, As the above Offers and Propoſals of the Government of this Province, have remained unanſwered ever ſince the Month of *March* laſt, in Conſequence of which Delay many Riots have been committed from Time to Time within this Province, by People claiming under *New-Jerſey*; and as from what has appeared to us, there is great Reaſon to believe that the ſaid ſeveral Riots have been committed by Perſons in the Pay, and under the Directions of the Proprietors of *Eaſt-New-Jerſey*, againſt the People holding under this Province, and as many Perſons holding under *New-York*, have by Threats and other ſiniſter Means, been driven to take Grants and Leaſes for their Poſſeſſions from and under *New-Jerſey*; and as, for the Reaſons aforeſaid, it appears to us, that the Government of *New-Jerſey* is ſo much under the Influence of the Perſons who call themſelves the Council of Proprietors of *Eaſt-New-Jerſey*, as to leave us no Hopes of its agreeing to a Temporary Line, conſiſtent with the ancient Rights of this Province; That your Honour do therefore immediately iſſue a Proclamation, of ſuch Tenor and Import as will beſt ſerve to ſupport the Juriſdiction of this Province, and protect the Perſons holding under the ſame, ſo far Southward as to a direct Line between the Stations of 1686, until a Temporary Line of Juriſdiction can be fixed and agreed on between the two Provinces.

2*dly*, That your Honour do give immediate Orders to his Majeſty's Attorney General of this Province, to proſecute all Perſons that have been any Ways aiding, abetting, and aſſiſting in ſuch Riots, ſince the ſaid Month of *March* laſt; and in particular in the Riot committed on the ſaid Major *Swartwout*, at the Church of *Waghakamack*, mentioned in ſome of the Affidavits referred to us; and alſo thoſe Perſons who, with armed Force, beſet the Houſe of the ſaid Col. *Decay*, in the Manner mentioned in other of the ſaid Affidavits referred to us.

3*dly*, That your Honour furniſh Governor BELCHER with Copies of the Act of Aſſembly of this Province, for ſubmitting the final Determination of the Controverſy to his Majeſty; and of the Vote of the Houſe of Aſſembly relating to Charges attending the ſame; of this Report, and of the Report of the Committee of the General Aſſembly, and of the Meſſage of that Houſe to your Honour, on the ſaid laſt mentioned Report; to the End that your Honour may be informed of the Reſult of the Government of *New-Jerſey*, concerning the ſame. And laſtly, That your Honour be pleaſed to lay before his Majeſty, the whole Tranſactions relating to this important Affair. All which Matters are nevertheleſs humbly ſubmitted to your Honour.

By Order of the Committee,

New-York,
17th December, 1754.

JOS. MURRAY,
Chairman.

New-York

Two printed Reports of a Committee of ye Council of New York, relating to the Line between New-Jersey & that Province. Dated in March & December 1754:

Rec.^d with ye Lieu.^t Governor's Lett.^r dated ye 15.th Decr 1754:

Rec.^d Febr.^y y^e. } 1755.
Read March 7. }

Kk. 41.

An Act for paying and discharging ... several debts due from this Colony to the Persons therein mentioned.

Be it Enacted by his Honour the Lieutenant Governour the Council and the General Assembly and it is hereby Enacted by the Authority of the same That the Treasurer of this Colony shall and hereby is directed and required out of the Funds appropriated for the support of the Government of this Colony and out of the moneys arisen or which may arise by virtue of An Act Entituled "An Act for granting to his Majesty the several duties and Imposicions on goods Wares and Merchandizes imported into this Colony therein mentioned." And also out of the moneys Arisen or which may arise by virtue of An Act Entituled "An Act to restrain Hawkers and Pedlars within this Colony from selling without Licence" to pay the several Sums of money following to Wit.

To his late Excellency Governor Clinton for Administring the Government of this Colony from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the tenth day of October following the Sume of one hundred and seventy one pounds.

To his Hon Honour the Lieutenant Governor for Administring the Government of this Colony from the twelfth day of October one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of one thousand three hundred eighty four pounds fifteen shillings.

To

To his said Honour the Lieutenant Governour for providing fire Wood and Candles for his Majesty's Garrison in the City of New York from the thirteenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the thirteenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of four hundred pounds.

To his said Honour the Lieutenant Governor for his extraordinary Expence at the late Treaty with the Indians at Albany the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds.

To the Honourable James DeLancey Esquire as Chief Justice of this Colony from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the twelfth day of October following the sum of thirty four pounds and ten shillings

To John Chambers Esquire as Second Justice of the Supreme Court of this Colony and for going the Circuits from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of two hundred pounds.

To Daniel Horsmanden Esq.r as third Justice of the Supreme Court of this Colony and for going the Circuits from the twenty eighth day of July one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of one hundred and nine pounds

and

and twelve shillings

To John Van Kenselaer for providing fire Wood and Candles for the Garrisons in the Forts at Albany Schenectady and Fort William from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of two hundred and seventy five pounds.

To Arent Stevens as Indian Interpreter and all other services which he has been directed to do by his Honour the Lieutenant Governour from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of ninety pounds.

To Goldsbrow Banyar for the use of the Honourable George Clarke Junior Esquire Secretary of this Colony for Engrossing and Enrolling the Acts of the General Assembly from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of thirty pounds.

To Goldsbrow Banyar Deputy Clerk of the Council for his Services in that Station from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of thirty pounds.

To Robert Young Doorkeeper of the Council for his services in that Station from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four

The

The Sum of twenty pounds.

To James Parker as Publick Printer of this Colony from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the Sum of Fifty pounds.

To John Kipps as Gaugers of Liquors subject to duty within this Colony from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the Sum of thirty pounds.

To Laurence Noone Land and Tide Waiter for his Services in that Station from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the Sum of thirty pounds.

To Captain John Waldron Keeper of the Colony Stores of War in the City of New York for his Service in that Station from the first day of Septem one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the Sum of twenty pounds.

To Robert Charles Agent for this Colony in Great Britain as a Reward for his care trouble and Diligence in attending his Majesty and his Ministers of State in that Station from the

first

first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four or to his Attorney the sum of two hundred pounds.

To Abraham Lott Junior Clerk to the General Assembly for his Services in that Station from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of forty eight pounds

To the said Abraham Lott for his Extraordinary services to the General Assembly in the years One thousand seven hundred and fifty one, One thousand seven hundred and fifty two, and one thousand seven hundred and fifty three the sum of twenty one pounds.

To Alexander Lamb as Doorkeeper to the General Assembly for his Services in that Station from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of twenty pounds.

To the said Alexander Lamb for providing fire Wood and for several other disbursements for the use of the General Assembly from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty three to the first day of December one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of twenty pounds.

To Robert Charles Esq. Agent for this Colony for his Expences on various Services for this Colony for Six Years ending the eighth day of May One thousand seven hundred

and

and fifty four or to his Attorney the Sume of nine hundred fifty four pounds and Seventeen shillings.

To Mr George Duncan for money advanced by him for the use of this Colony the twenty secondary of July one thousand seven hundred and fifty one the Sum of three pounds seven Shillings and ten pence.

To Colonel William Johnson for his expences on his Commission to Treat with the Six Nations of Indians at Onondago in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty three in discharge of his Account against this Colony the Sum of seventy two pounds and nine Shillings

To John De Peyster for Transporting Cannon and Ammunition to Oswego in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty four in discharge of his Account against this Colony the Sum of seventy seven pounds twelve Shillings and six pence.

To Meyndert Wemp for his Service as Smith in the Senecas Country and for his Disbursements in that service in the year One thousand seven hundred and fifty three the Sum of One hundred and seven pounds three Shillings and ten pence.

To Jacob Van Schaick Junr for Transporting an Officers and Company of Soldiers in the year One thousand Seven hundred and fifty four from

New York

New York to Albany by order of his Honour the Lieutenant Governour the Sum of five pounds and two shillings.

To Captain Peter Winne for his Extraordinary Expence in Repairing Fort Frederick in the City of Albany in the yeare one thousand seven hundred and fifty three over and above the Sum of two hundred pounds which was allowed to him Peter Dow and John Baptist Van Renselaer Esquires for that service the Sum of forty five pounds thirteen shillings and seven pence half penny.

To the said Peter Winne Peter Dow and John Baptist Van Renselaer for their care and trouble in the Disposition of the aforesaid money the Sum of seven pounds and ten shillings.

To Jacob Goelet for Sundry services done by him by order of the Commissioners for inspecting in the Boundaries of this Colony and for Translating several Dutch papers and Records the Sum of thirty three pounds eight shillings and nine pence.

To Johan Joost Petrie for supplying the additional Garrison of the Regular Forces at Oswego with provisions in the year one thousand seven hundred and forty nine the Sum of two hundred and twenty eight pounds. And

To Abraham De Peyster Esquire Treasurer of this Colony for his Service in that Station from the first day of September one thousand seven

hundred

hundred and fifty three to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that in case the monies Arisen by and from the Funds and Acts aforesaid should not be sufficient to pay and satisfye the Several persons aforesaid the respective sums of money hereby allowed to them the Treasurer shall be and hereby is directed and Authorized to borrow and take so much money now in the Treasury Arisen or which shall arise by Virtue of the Excise and Tonnage Funds as will be sufficient to pay and Satisfye the same And the General Assembly will hereafter find ways and means to Replace such Sums of money so Borrowed as aforesaid.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that the Treasurer shall keep Exact Books of the Several payments which he is by this Act directed to make and render true Accounts thereof upon Oath to the Lieutenant Governour or Commander in Chief for the time being to the Council or to the General Assembly when by them or any of them thereunto required.

City of New York Die. Mercurii the 27th

Novem:

November 1754 in the twenty eighth year of his Majesty's Reign.

General Assembly for the Colony of New York

This Bill having been read three times

Resolved that the Bill do pass.

By order of the General Assembly

David Jones Speaker

A true Copy of the Original Bill sent up to the Council from the House of Assembly

Examd. Per

John Barclay Clk

Cpy. New York.

An Act for paying and discharging Several Debts due from this Colony to the Person therein mentioned.

Council Chamber City of New York the 27th day of Novr. 1754

This Bill was then read the first time, and ordered a second Reading.

Novemr. 28. Read the second time and ordered to be committed.

Decr. 7th Reported without Amendment, and on the question being put, whether the Bill should be read the third time, it passed in the negative.

Jno Banyar Dpt Cler

Recd with Lieut. Govr. De Lancey's Lett. dated ye 15th Decr. 1754:

Recd Febry ye ... } 1755.
Read March y 7 }

Kk. 42

An Act for the Payment of the Salarys and Sevrals therein mentioned to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five.

Be it Enacted by his Honour the Lieutenant Governor the Council and the General Assembly and it is hereby Enacted by the Authority of the same, that the Treasurer of this Colony shall be and hereby is directed and required out of the Funds appropriated for the Support of the government of this Colony, and out of the Monies arisen or which may arise by Vertue of an Act Intituled "An Act for granting to his Majesty the several duties and imposicions on goods Wares and Merchandizes imported into this Colony therein mentioned" and also out of the Monies arisen or which may arise by Vertue of an Act Intituled "An Act to restrain Hawkers and Pedlars within this Colony from selling without Licence" So many of the sums and in the manner herein after directed the Several Salarys and allowances following to Wit

To his Honour the Lieutenant Governor for Administring the Government of this Colony from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September which will be in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the rate of One thousand five hundred and sixty pounds per Annum.

To his Honour the Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being for providing fire wood and Candles for his Majesty's Garison in the City of Newyork from the thirteenth day of June One thousand seven

seven hundred and fifty four to the thirteenth day of June which will be in the year One thousand seven hundred and fifty five the sum of four hundred pounds.

To John Chambers Esquire as Second Justice of the Supreme Court of this Colony and for going the Circuits from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September which will be in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the rate of one hundred and fifty pounds and in consideration of the Additional burthen of that office at present the further Sum of fifty Pounds.

To Daniel Horsmanden Esquire as third Justice of the Supreme Court of this Colony and for going the Circuits from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September which will be in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the rate of One hundred Pounds.

To John Van Renselaer for providing Firewood and Candles for the Garisons in the Forts of Albany Schonectady and Fort William from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty five the Sum of two hundred and seventy five pounds.

To Arent Stevens for his Salary as Indian Interpreter and all other services which he has been or shall be directed to do by his Honour the

Lieutenant

Lieutenant Governor or Comenander in Chief for the time being from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the rate of ninety pounds.

To the Secretary of this Colony for the time being for Ingrossing and Inrolling the Acts of the General Assembly from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five the Sum of thirty pounds.

To the Clerk of the Council for the time being for his services in that Station from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five the Sum of thirty pounds.

To the Doorkeeper of the Council for the time being for his services in that Station from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty five the Sum of twenty pounds.

To James Parker as Publick Printer of this Colony from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the rate of Fifty pounds per Annum.

To John Hay Gauger of Liquors Subject to Duties within this Colony or to the Gauger thereof for the time being from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the

rate.

rate of thirty pounds per Annum.

To Laurence Hoome Land and tide waiter of the Colony Duties or to the Land and Tide waiter thereof for the time being from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the rate of thirty pounds per Annum

And to Captain John Waldron as keeper of the Colony Stores of War in the City of Newyork for his Services in that Station from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the rate of Twenty pounds per Annum

All which before mentioned several allowances shall be paid by the Treasurer on Warrants issued in Council signed by the Lieutenant Governor or Commander in chief for the time being by and with the advice and consent of the Council Quarterly or at the respective times mentioned in the said Allowances Provided that the said Warrants do not exceed the several and respective Sums before mentioned and the Receits of the said several persons Indorsed on the said Warrants shall be to the said Treasurer good Vouchers and discharges for so much as shall be thereby acknowledged to be Received.

And be it Enacted by the authority aforesaid that if his Honour the Lieutenant Governor shall happen to die remove out of this Colony or be superseded in the administration of this Government or that any of the beforementioned

officers

Officers shall happen to die or be Removed from their Respective offices before the first day of September which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty five Warrants may be issued in manner aforesaid for so much only out of the respective Sum or Sums allowed in this Act as at the time of such death Supercedure or Removal shall really be due to him or them And if such Warrant or Warrants exceed not such Arrear the Treasurer shall pay the same to such Officer or Officers Respectively or to his or their Executors Administrators or Assigns and the Remainder of such allowance or allowances shall remain in the Treasury until disposed of by Act or Acts hereafter to be passed for that purpose.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that the said Treasurer shall out of the Sums aforesaid and monies arisen or which may arise by Virtue of the Acts aforesaid Pay the following allowances to Wit

To Robert Charles Esquire Agent for this Colony in Great Britain as a Reward for his care trouble and Diligence in attending his Majesty and his Ministers of State in that Station from the first day of September one thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the Rate of Two hundred pounds per Annum which said Sum or so much thereof as shall be really due shall be paid by an order of the General Assembly Signed by the Speaker of the same for the time being and not otherwise

To Abraham Taliaferro Clerk to the General Assembly for his Services in that Station from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven

seven hundred and fifty five Twelve Shillings per Diem upon a Certificate from the General Assembly Signed by the Speaker for the Number of Days he has served or may serve the General Assembly.

To Alexander Lamb Doorkeeper to the General Assembly for his services in that Station from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five Five Shillings per diem — payable upon a Certificate from the General Assembly Signed by the Speaker for the number of days he has served or may serve the General Assembly.

And to Abraham De Peyster Esquire Treasurer of this Colony for his Services in that Station from the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty four to the first day of September One thousand seven hundred and fifty five after the rate of Two hundred pounds per Annum And for the Services which he is now obliged to perform beyond the usual duty of his office the further Sum of Fifty Pounds — Which said Sums or so much thereof as shall be really due shall be allowed to the said Abraham De Peyster or to his Executors or Administrators good discharges for so much in his or their Accounts

And be it Enacted by the authority aforesaid that for answering the expence of Contingencies and extraordinary Emergencies that may happen for the Service of this Colony from the Publication of this Act for and during the Term of one year Warrants may issue for the same on the Treasurer from time to time if drawn by the Governor by and with the

advice

advice and consent of the Council which the Treasurer is hereby ordered and directed to pay out of the monies arisen or which may arise by virtue of the Sums aforesaid.—
Provided the amount of the said Warrants do not exceed the Sum of One hundred pounds during the said time and if no part or only part thereof shall be required for such special service either the whole or the residue shall remain in the Treasury.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that the Treasurer shall keep Exact Books of the several payments which by this Act he is directed to make and render true Accompts thereupon Oath to the Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being to the Council or to the General Assembly when by them or any of them thereunto Required.

City of New York Die Veneris the 29th November 1751.
In the twenty Eighth year of his Majesty's Reign
General Assembly for the Colony of New York
This Bill being Read three times.
Resolved that the Bill do Pass
By order of the General Assembly
David Jones Speaker.

A true Copy of the Original Bill sent up to the Council from the House of Assembly Examined by

1755

Copy. New York.

An Act for the payment of the Salaries and Services therein mentioned to the first day of September one thousand Seven hundred and fifty five.

Council Chamber City of New York November 29th 1754.

This Bill was then read the first time and ordered a Second Reading

December 5th Read the second time and ordered to be Committed.

December 7th. Reported without Amendment. and on the question being put whether the Bill should be Read the Third time it passed in the Negative.

By Order

Rec.d with Lieut.t Gov.r De Lancey's Lett.r dated y.e 15.th Dec.br 1754.

Rec.d Febr.y 7.e ... } 1755.
Read March 7. ... }

Kk. 43.